

# COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION & STATE LANDS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2008 5:15 PM – 7:00 PM 216 THE CAPITOL

**REVISED3** 

# **Committee Meeting Notice HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **Speaker Marco Rubio**

#### **Committee on Conservation & State Lands**

Start Date and Time:

Wednesday, March 26, 2008 05:15 pm or 10 minutes after Session

End Date and Time:

Wednesday, March 26, 2008 07:00 pm

Location:

**Duration:** 

216 Capitol 1.75 hrs

#### Consideration of the following bill(s):

HB 31 Springs Protection by Boyd

Consideration of recommendations with respect to Proposed Council Bill ENRC 08-09, relating to Florida Forever Successor.

Pursuant to rule 7.12, the deadline for amendments to bills on the agenda by non-appointed member shall be 6:00p.m., Tuesday, March 25, 2008.

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to state lands; amending s Paragraph (a)
of subsection (1) of section 201.15F.S.; Subsection (1) of
section 215.618, F.S.; amending subsection (1) of s.
253.002, F.S.; amending s. 253.0325, F.S.; amending
subsections (1),(2),(4),(5) and (6)s. 253.034, F.S.;
transferring the Florida Community Trust from Department
of Community Affairs to the Department of Environmental
Protection; amending s. 259.032, F.S.; amending s.
259.035,F.S.; amending s. 259.036, F.S.; amending s.
259.037.F.S. .; amending s. 259.105, F.S.; providing an
effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 201.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

201.15 Distribution of taxes collected.—All taxes collected under this chapter shall be distributed as follows and shall be subject to the service charge imposed in s. 215.20(1), except that such service charge shall not be levied against any portion of taxes pledged to debt service on bonds to the extent that the amount of the service charge is required to pay any amounts relating to the bonds:

(1) Sixty-two and sixty-three hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be used for the following purposes:

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Amounts as shall be necessary to pay the debt service on, or fund debt service reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts payable with respect to Preservation 2000 bonds issued pursuant to s. 375.051 and Florida Forever bonds issued pursuant to s. 215.618, shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to be used for such purposes. The amount transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund shall not exceed \$300 million in fiscal year 1999-2000 and thereafter for Preservation 2000 bonds and bonds issued to refund Preservation 2000 bonds, and \$300 million in fiscal year 2000-2001 and thereafter for Florida Forever bonds. The annual amount transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund for Florida Forever bonds shall not exceed \$30 million in the first fiscal year in which bonds are issued. The limitation on the amount transferred shall be increased by an additional \$30 million in each subsequent fiscal year, but shall not exceed a total of \$300 million in any fiscal year for all bonds issued. It is the intent of the Legislature that all bonds issued to fund the Florida Forever Act be retired by December 31, 2033 2030. Except for bonds issued to refund previously issued bonds, no series of bonds may be issued pursuant to this paragraph unless such bonds are approved and the debt service for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the bonds are issued is specifically appropriated in the General Appropriations Act. For purposes of refunding Preservation 2000 bonds, amounts designated within this section for Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever bonds may be transferred between the two programs to the extent provided for in the documents authorizing the issuance of

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the bonds. The Preservation 2000 bonds and Florida Forever bonds shall be equally and ratably secured by moneys distributable to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this section, except to the extent specifically provided otherwise by the documents authorizing the issuance of the bonds. No moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this paragraph, or earnings thereon, shall be used or made available to pay debt service on the Save Our Coast revenue bonds.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 215.618, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.618 Bonds for acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests and resources.--

(1) (a) The issuance of Florida Forever bonds, not to exceed \$3.2 \$3 billion, to finance or refinance the cost of acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests and resources, in urban and rural settings, for the purposes of restoration, conservation, recreation, water resource development, or historical preservation, and for capital improvements to lands and water areas that accomplish environmental restoration, enhance public access and recreational enjoyment, promote long-term management goals, and facilitate water resource development is hereby authorized, subject to the provisions of s. 259.105 and pursuant to s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State Constitution. Florida Forever bonds may also be issued to refund Preservation 2000 bonds issued pursuant to s. 375.051. The \$3.2 \$3 billion limitation on the issuance of Florida Forever bonds does not apply to refunding bonds. The duration of each series of Florida Forever bonds

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issued may not exceed 20 annual maturities. Preservation 2000 bonds and Florida Forever bonds shall be equally and ratably secured by moneys distributable to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15(1)(a), except to the extent specifically provided otherwise by the documents authorizing the issuance of the bonds.

- (b) Beginning July 1, 2013, the Legislature shall analyze the state's debt ratio in relation to projected revenues prior to the authorization of any bonds for land acquisition.

  (c) By February 1, 2010, the Legislature shall complete an analysis of potential revenue sources for Florida Forever.
- Section 3. The Florida Communities Trust of the Department of Community Affairs is hereby transferred by a type two transfer as define in s. 20.06(2), Florida Statutes, to the Department of Environmental Protection.
- Section 4. The Division of Statutory Revision of the Joint Legislative Management Committee is requested to prepare a reviser's bill to conform the Florida Statutes to the organizational changes made by this act.
- Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 253.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 253.002 Department of Environmental Protection, water management districts, <u>Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission</u>, and Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; duties with respect to state lands.--
- (1) The Department of Environmental Protection shall perform all staff duties and functions related to the acquisition, administration, and disposition of state lands,

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title to which is or will be vested in the Board of Trustees of 113 114 the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The Fish and Wildlife 115 Conservation Commission and the Department of Agriculture and 116 Consumer Service are designated the state's primary land 117 managers. The duties and responsibility of the state's primary 118 land managers include, but not limited to, concurrently 119 developing the land management plans required pursuant to 120 253.034(5), implementing the land management plans, and the 121 monitoring the results of the land management activities. 122 However, upon the effective date of rules adopted pursuant to s. 373.427, a water management district created under s. 373.069 123 124 shall perform the staff duties and functions related to the 125 review of any application for authorization to use board of 126 trustees-owned submerged lands necessary for an activity 127 regulated under part IV of chapter 373 for which the water 128 management district has permitting responsibility as set forth 129 in an operating agreement adopted pursuant to s. 373.046(4); and 130 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall perform the staff duties and functions related to the review of 131 132 applications and compliance with conditions for use of board of 133 trustees-owned submerged lands under authorizations or leases 134 issued pursuant to ss. 253.67-253.75 and 597.010. Unless 135 expressly prohibited by law, the board of trustees may delegate 136 to the department any statutory duty or obligation relating to the acquisition, administration, or disposition of lands, title 137 to which is or will be vested in the board of trustees. The 138 139 board of trustees may also delegate to any water management 140 district created under s. 373.069 the authority to take final

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agency action, without any action on behalf of the board, on applications for authorization to use board of trustees-owned submerged lands for any activity regulated under part IV of chapter 373 for which the water management district has permitting responsibility as set forth in an operating agreement adopted pursuant to s. 373.046(4). This water management district responsibility under this subsection shall be subject to the department's general supervisory authority pursuant to s. 373.026(7). The board of trustees may also delegate to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services the authority to take final agency action on behalf of the board on applications to use board of trustees-owned submerged lands for any activity for which that department has responsibility pursuant to ss. 253.67-253.75 and 597.010. However, the board of trustees shall retain the authority to take final agency action on establishing any areas for leasing, new leases, expanding existing lease areas, or changing the type of lease activity in existing leases. Upon issuance of an aquaculture lease or other real property transaction relating to aquaculture, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services must send a copy of the document and the accompanying survey to the Department of Environmental Protection.

Section 6. Section 253.0325, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.0325 Modernization of state lands records .--

(1) The Department of Environmental Protection shall initiate an ongoing computerized information systems program to modernize its state lands records and documents that relate to

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lands to which title is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The program shall include, at a minimum:

- (a) A document management component to automate the storage and retrieval of information contained in state lands records.
- (b) A land records management component to organize the records by key elements present in the data.
- (c) An evaluation component which includes the collection of resource and environmental data.
- (d) A mapping component to generate and store maps of state-owned parcels using data from the land records management and evaluation components.
- initiate and maintain an information system that is the basis for land acquisition and land management decision making and modeling. The information system shall map in an electronic format the natural communities on each tract of state land and proposed land acquisition. Natural community are defined as a distinct and recurring assemblage of populations of plants, animals, fungi and microorganisms naturally associated with each other and their physical environment. Each natural community will further partitioned into natural community categories.

  Each natural community category will be further partitioned into natural community groups. Each natural community group will further partition into natural community types. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will assist in the development and

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standardization of such a system. The Department of
Environmental Protection may utilize a third party for the
information system and its data. The Information system and its
data are to be proprietary to the state.

- (3)(2) At all stages of its records modernization program, the department shall seek to ensure information systems compatibility within the department and with other state, local, and regional governmental agencies. The department also shall seek to promote standardization in the collection of information regarding state-owned lands by federal, state, regional, and local agencies.
- $\underline{(4)}$  (3) The information collected and stored as a result of the department's modernization of state lands records shall not be considered a final or complete accounting of lands which the state owns or to which the state may claim ownership.
- Section 7. Subsections (1),(2),(4),(5) and (6) of section 253.034, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 253.034 State-owned lands; uses.--
- (1) All lands acquired pursuant to chapter 259 shall be managed to serve the public interest by protecting and conserving land, air, water, and the state's natural resources, which contribute to the public health, welfare, and economy of the state. These lands shall be managed to provide for areas of recreation, including but not limited to, natural resource based recreation, and to ensure the survival of plant and animal species and the conservation of finite and renewable natural resources. The state's lands and natural resources shall be managed using a stewardship ethic that assures these resources

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will be available for the benefit and enjoyment of all people of the state, both present and future. It is the intent of the Legislature that, where feasible and consistent with the goals of protection and conservation of natural resources associated with lands held in the public trust by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, public land not designated for single-use purposes pursuant to paragraph (2)(b) be managed for multiple-use purposes. All multiple-use land management strategies shall address public access and enjoyment, resource conservation and protection, ecosystem maintenance and protection, and protection of threatened and endangered species, and the degree to which public-private partnerships or endowments may allow the entity with management responsibility to enhance its ability to manage these lands. The council created in s. 259.035 shall recommend rules to the board of trustees, and the board shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

- (2) As used in this section, the following phrases have the following meanings:
- (a) "Multiple use" means the harmonious and coordinated management of timber, recreation, conservation of fish and wildlife, forage, archaeological and historic sites, habitat and other biological resources, or water resources so that they are utilized in the combination that will best serve the people of the state, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources and giving consideration to the relative values of the various resources. Where necessary and appropriate for all state-owned lands that are larger than 1,000 acres in

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project size and are managed for multiple uses, buffers may be formed around any areas that require special protection or have special management needs. Such buffers shall not exceed more than one-half of the total acreage. Multiple uses within a buffer area may be restricted to provide the necessary buffering effect desired. Multiple use in this context includes both uses of land or resources by more than one management entity, which may include private sector land managers. In any case, lands identified as multiple-use lands in the land management plan shall be managed to enhance <u>public access</u> and conserve the lands and resources for the enjoyment of the people of the state.

"Single use" means management for one particular purpose to the exclusion of all other purposes, except that the using entity shall have the option of including in its management program compatible secondary purposes which will not detract from or interfere with the primary management purpose. Such single uses may include, but are not necessarily restricted to, the use of agricultural lands for production of food and livestock, the use of improved sites and grounds for institutional purposes, and the use of lands for parks, preserves, wildlife management, archaeological or historic sites, designated preserves, or wilderness areas where the maintenance of essentially natural conditions is important. All submerged lands shall be considered single-use lands and shall be managed primarily for the maintenance of essentially natural conditions, the propagation of fish and wildlife, and public recreation, including hunting and fishing where deemed

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appropriate by the managing entity, except where public access to state waters are enhanced.

"Conservation lands" means state owned lands that are (C) currently managed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for conservation, outdoor resource-based recreation, or archaeological or historic preservation, except those lands that were acquired solely to facilitate the acquisition of other conservation lands. Lands acquired for uses other than conservation, outdoor resource-based recreation, or archaeological or historic preservation shall not be designated conservation lands except as otherwise authorized under this section. These lands shall include, but not be limited to, the following: correction and detention facilities, military installations and facilities, state office buildings, maintenance yards, state university or state community college campuses, agricultural field stations or offices, tower sites, law enforcement and license facilities, laboratories, hospitals, clinics, and other sites that possess no significant natural or historical resources. However, lands acquired solely to facilitate the acquisition of other conservation lands, and for which the land management plan has not yet been completed or updated, may be evaluated by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund on a case-by-case basis to determine if they will be designated conservation lands.

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Lands acquired by the state as a gift, through donation, or by any other conveyance for which no consideration was paid, and

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which are not managed for conservation, outdoor resource-based recreation, or archaeological or historic preservation under a land management plan approved by the board of trustees are not conservation lands.

- conservation of the state's plant and animal species and to assure the accessibility of public lands for the benefit and enjoyment all people of the state, both present and future. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall concurrently prepare land management plans for state lands. Each land management plan shall provide a desired outcome with measurable objectives to obtain the desired outcome. The desired outcome shall at a minimum include sustainability, improving habitat and increasing public access and will be the basis for all subsequent land management activities.
- (a) To ensure the desired outcome is achieved, state lands shall be managed to achieve the following objectives.
  - 1. Habitat restoration and improvement.
  - 2. Public access and recreation.
  - 3. Hydrological preservation and restoration.
  - 4. Forest management.
  - 5. Exotic and invasive species control.
  - 6. Financial sustainability of land management activities.
- 332 (b) The land management plan shall at a minimum contain the following elements.
  - 1. Physical description of the property

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- 2. A quantitative data description of the property to include a survey of forest resources; exotic and invasive plants; hydrological features; capital facilities, including recreational facilities. The description shall be of such detail that objective measures and benchmarks can be established for each tract of land and monitored during the lifetime of the plan. All quantitative data collected shall be aggregated, standardized, collected and presented in an electronic format to allow for management reporting and analysis. The information collected by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to 253.0325(2) shall available to the land manager and their assignee.
- 3. A detailed description of each land management objective and the activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives. Each land management objective must be addressed by the land management plan but no land management objective shall be performed to the detriment of the other land management objectives.
- 4. An activity matrix shall be prepared that contain a timeline, quantitative measurements, detailed expense and manpower budgets for each activity. The activity matrix is to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures.
- 5. A summary budget for the land management activities of the land management plan. The summary budget shall be prepared in such a manner that it facilitates an aggregate of land management costs for all state lands.

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- (c) Upon completion, the land management plan will be transmitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review. After a 30 day review and comment period, the land management plan will become operational. If issues arise during the review and comment period that require revisions to the land management plan, the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Fish and Wildlife Commission or their delegates shall develop a consensus for land management plan changes and redraft the plan. During the redrafting period, no funds for the management of the land may be expended other than those to address emergency situations.
- (d) Annually, the state lands with an approved land management plan must be monitored by the Fish and Wildlife Commission and reviewed by a certified third party. The Fish and Wildlife Commission will prepare a monitoring report that accounts for the progress of land management activities and specifically identifies deficiencies in the management activities. The monitoring report shall be submitted to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Acquisition and Restoration Council. The third party review and analysis of the management plan shall identify the progress of the management activities. The third party review and analysis shall provide suggested corrective actions needed to be taken by the land manager to address identified deficiencies. The third party review and analysis are to be submitted to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Acquisition and Restoration

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Council. The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review the monitoring report and the third party review and analysis and determine which deficiencies are of a significant consequence require a corrective action plan or revision to the land management plan. Such corrective actions and revision shall be brought in front of board who will determine whether the corrective actions and revision sufficiently address the identified deficiencies. Corrective actions plans shall be prepared and submitted in the same manner as the land management plan.

- (e) Land management plans are to be prepared on rotating basis on a 10 year cycle.
- (f) In developing and management plans at least two public hearings will be held.

Each manager of conservation lands shall submit to the Division of State Lands a land management plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board and in accordance with the provisions of s. 259.032. Each manager of conservation lands shall also update a land management plan whenever the manager proposes to add new facilities or make substantive land use or management changes that were not addressed in the approved plan, or within 1 year of the addition of significant new lands. Each manager of nonconservation lands shall submit to the Division of State Lands a land use plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board. The division shall review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection and the requirements of the rules established by the board pursuant to this section. All

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land use plans, whether for single use or multiple-use properties, shall include an analysis of the property to determine if any significant natural or cultural resources are located on the property. Such resources include archaeological and historic sites, state and federally listed plant and animal species, and imperiled natural communities and unique natural features. If such resources occur on the property, the manager shall consult with the Division of State Lands and other appropriate agencies to develop management strategies to protect such resources. Land use plans shall also provide for the control of invasive nonnative plants and conservation of soil and water resources, including a description of how the manager plans to control and prevent soil erosion and soil or water contamination. Land use plans submitted by a manager shall include reference to appropriate statutory authority for such use or uses and shall conform to the appropriate policies and quidelines of the state land management plan. Plans for managed areas larger than 1,000 acres shall contain an analysis of the multiple-use potential of the property, which analysis shall include the potential of the property to generate revenues enhance the management of the property. Additionally, the plan shall contain an analysis of the potential use of private land managers to facilitate the restoration or management of these lands. In those cases where a newly acquired property has a valid conservation plan that was developed by a soil and conservation district, such plan shall be used to quide management of the property until a formal land use plan is completed.

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(q) (a) Each land manager The Division of State Lands shall make available to the public an electronic a copy a copy of each land management plan for parcels that exceed 160 acres in size. The council shall review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection, the requirements of chapter 259, and the requirements of the rules established by the board pursuant to this section. The council shall also consider the propriety of the recommendations of the managing entity with regard to the future use of the property, the protection of fragile or nonrenewable resources, the potential for alternative or multiple uses not recognized by the managing entity, and the possibility of disposal of the property by the board. After its review, the council shall submit the plan, along with its recommendations and comments, to the board. The council shall specifically recommend to the board whether to approve the plan as submitted, approve the plan with modifications, or reject the plan.

- (h) (b) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall consider the land management plan submitted by each entity and the recommendations of the council and the Division of State Lands and shall approve the plan with or without modification or reject such plan. The use or possession of any such lands that is not in accordance with an approved land management plan is subject to termination by the board.
- (6) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall determine which lands, the title to which is vested in the board, may be surplused. For conservation lands, the board shall make a determination that the lands are no

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longer needed for conservation purposes and may dispose of them by an affirmative vote of at least three members. In the case of a land exchange involving the disposition of conservation lands, the board must determine by an affirmative vote of at least three members that the exchange will result in a net positive conservation benefit. For all other lands, the board shall make a determination that the lands are no longer needed and may dispose of them by an affirmative vote of at least three members.

- (a) For the purposes of this subsection, all state owned lands managed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer

  Services and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and all lands acquired by the state prior to July 1, 1999, using proceeds from the Preservation 2000 bonds, the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, the Water Management Lands Trust Fund, Environmentally Endangered Lands Program, and the Save Our Coast Program and titled to the board, which lands are identified as core parcels or within original project boundaries, shall be deemed to have been acquired for conservation purposes.
- (b) For any lands purchased by the state on or after July 1, 1999, a determination shall be made by the board prior to acquisition as to those parcels that shall be designated as having been acquired for conservation purposes. No lands acquired for use by the Department of Corrections, the Department of Management Services for use as state offices, the Department of Transportation, except those specifically managed for conservation or recreation purposes, or the State University

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System or the Florida Community College System shall be designated as having been purchased for conservation purposes.

- management plan or land use plan and in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board, each manager shall evaluate and indicate to the board those lands that are not being used for the purpose for which they were originally leased. For conservation lands, the council shall review and shall recommend to the board whether such lands should be retained in public ownership or disposed of by the board. For nonconservation lands, the division shall review such lands and shall recommend to the board whether such lands should be retained in public ownership or disposed of by the board.
- (d) Lands owned by the board which are not actively managed by any state agency or for which a land management plan has not been completed pursuant to subsection (5) shall be reviewed by the council or its successor for its recommendation as to whether such lands should be managed by a private contractor, leased or disposed of by the board.
- (e) Prior to any decision by the board to surplus lands, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review and make recommendations to the board concerning the request for surplusing. The council shall determine whether the request for surplusing is compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands.
- (f)1. In reviewing lands owned by the board, the council shall consider whether such lands would be more appropriately owned or managed by the county or other unit of local government

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in which the land is located. The council shall recommend to the board whether a sale, lease, or other conveyance to a local government would be in the best interests of the state and local government. The provisions of this paragraph in no way limit the provisions of ss. 253.111 and 253.115. Such lands shall be offered to the state, county, or local government for a period of 30 days. Permittable uses for such surplus lands may include public schools; public libraries; fire or law enforcement substations; governmental, judicial, or recreational centers; and affordable housing meeting the criteria of s. 420.0004(3). County or local government requests for surplus lands shall be expedited throughout the surplusing process. If the county or local government does not elect to purchase such lands in accordance with s. 253.111, then any surplusing determination involving other governmental agencies shall be made upon the board deciding the best public use of the lands. Surplus properties in which governmental agencies have expressed no interest shall then be available for sale on the private market. 2. Notwithstanding subparagraph 1., any parcel of surplus lands less than 3 acres in size which was acquired by the state before 1955 by gift or other conveyance or for \$1 consideration from a fair association incorporated under chapter 616 for the purpose of conducting and operating public fairs or expositions, and concerning which the department has filed by July notice of intent to dispose of as surplus lands, shall be offered for reconveyance to such fair association for no consideration; however, the agency that last held the lease from the board for management of such lands may remove from the lands

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any improvements, fixtures, goods, wares, and merchandise within 180 days after the effective date of the reconveyance. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2008.

- (g) The sale price of lands determined to be surplus pursuant to this subsection shall be determined by the division and shall take into consideration an appraisal of the property, or, when the estimated value of the land is less than \$100,000, a comparable sales analysis or a broker's opinion of value, and the price paid by the state to originally acquire the lands.
- 1.a. A written valuation of land determined to be surplus pursuant to this subsection, and related documents used to form the valuation or which pertain to the valuation, are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution until 2 weeks before the contract or agreement regarding the purchase, exchange, or disposal of the surplus land is first considered for approval by the board. Notwithstanding the exemption provided under this subparagraph, the division may disclose appraisals, valuations, or valuation information regarding surplus land during negotiations for the sale or exchange of the land, during the marketing effort or bidding process associated with the sale, disposal, or exchange of the land to facilitate closure of such effort or process, when the passage of time has made the conclusions of value invalid, or when negotiations or marketing efforts concerning the land are concluded.
- b. This subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15, and

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shall stand repealed on October 2, 2009, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

- 2. A unit of government that acquires title to lands hereunder for less than appraised value may not sell or transfer title to all or any portion of the lands to any private owner for a period of 10 years. Any unit of government seeking to transfer or sell lands pursuant to this paragraph shall first allow the board of trustees to reacquire such lands for the price at which the board sold such lands.
- (h) Where a unit of government acquired land by gift, donation, grant, quitclaim deed, or other such conveyance where no monetary consideration was exchanged, the price of land sold as surplus may be based on one appraisal. In the event that a single appraisal yields a value equal to or greater than \$1 million, a second appraisal is required. The individual or entity requesting the surplus shall select and use appraisers from the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands in accordance with s. 253.025(6)(b). The individual or entity requesting the surplus is to incur all costs of the appraisals.
- (i) After reviewing the recommendations of the council, the board shall determine whether lands identified for surplus are to be held for other public purposes or whether such lands are no longer needed. The board may require an agency to release its interest in such lands. For an agency that has requested the use of a property that was to be declared as surplus, said agency must have the property under lease within 6 months of the

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date of expiration of the notice provisions required under this subsection and s. 253.111.

- (j) Requests for surplusing may be made by any public or private entity or person. All requests shall be submitted to the lead managing agency for review and recommendation to the council or its successor. Lead managing agencies shall have 90 days to review such requests and make recommendations. Any surplusing requests that have not been acted upon within the 90-day time period shall be immediately scheduled for hearing at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the council or its successor. Requests for surplusing pursuant to this paragraph shall not be required to be offered to local or state governments as provided in paragraph (f).
- (k) Proceeds from any sale of surplus lands pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into the fund from which such lands were acquired. However, if the fund from which the lands were originally acquired no longer exists, such proceeds shall be deposited into an appropriate account to be used for land management by the lead managing agency assigned the lands prior to the lands being declared surplus. Funds received from the sale of surplus nonconservation lands, or lands that were acquired by gift, by donation, or for no consideration, shall be deposited into the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.
- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, no such disposition of land shall be made if such disposition would have the effect of causing all or any portion of the interest on any revenue bonds issued to lose the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

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- (m) The sale of filled, formerly submerged land that does not exceed 5 acres in area is not subject to review by the council or its successor.
- (n) The board may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section, which may include procedures for administering surplus land requests and criteria for when the division may approve requests to surplus nonconservation lands on behalf of the board.
- Section 8. Section 259.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 259.032 Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund; purpose.--
- It is the policy of the state that the citizens of this state shall be assured public ownership of natural areas for purposes of maintaining this state's unique natural resources; protecting air, land, and water quality; promoting water resource development to meet the needs of natural systems and citizens of this state; promoting restoration activities on public lands; and providing lands for recreation, including but not limited to, natural resource based recreation. In recognition of this policy, it is the intent of the Legislature to provide such public lands for the people residing in urban and metropolitan areas of the state, as well as those residing in less populated, rural areas. It is the further intent of the Legislature, with regard to the lands described in paragraph (3) (c), that a high priority be given to the acquisition of such lands in or near counties exhibiting the greatest concentration of population and, with regard to the lands described in

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subsection (3), that a high priority be given to acquiring lands or rights or interests in lands within any area designated as an area of critical state concern under s. 380.05 which, in the judgment of the advisory council established pursuant to s. 259.035, or its successor, cannot be adequately protected by application of land development regulations adopted pursuant to s. 380.05. Finally, it is the Legislature's intent that lands acquired through this program and any successor programs be managed in such a way as to protect or restore their natural resource values, and provide the greatest benefit, including public access, to the citizens of this state.

(2)

- (a) The Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund is established within the Department of Environmental Protection. The fund shall be used as a nonlapsing, revolving fund exclusively for the purposes of this section. The fund shall be credited with proceeds from the following excise taxes:
- 2. The excise tax on the severance of phosphate rock as provided in s. 211.3103.

The Department of Revenue shall credit to the fund each month the proceeds from such taxes as provided in this paragraph.

(b) There shall annually be transferred from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund that amount, not to exceed \$20 million annually, as shall be necessary to pay the debt service on, or

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fund debt service reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts with respect to bonds issued pursuant to s. 375.051 to acquire lands on the established priority list developed pursuant to ss. 259.101(4) and 259.105; however, no moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this paragraph, or earnings thereon, shall be used or made available to pay debt service on the Save Our Coast revenue bonds. Amounts transferred annually from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this paragraph shall have the highest priority over other payments or transfers from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, and no other payments or transfers shall be made from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund until such transfers to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund have been made. Moneys in the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund also shall be used to manage lands and to pay for related costs, activities, and functions pursuant to the provisions of this section.

- (3) The Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, may allocate moneys from the fund in any one year to acquire the fee or any lesser interest in lands for the following public purposes:
- (a) To conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area;

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- (b) To conserve and protect lands within designated areas of critical state concern, if the proposed acquisition relates to the natural resource protection purposes of the designation;
- (c) To conserve and protect native species habitat or endangered or threatened species, emphasizing long-term protection for endangered or threatened species designated G-1 or G-2 by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and especially those areas that are special locations for breeding and reproduction;
- (d) To conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, if the protection and conservation of such lands is necessary to enhance or protect significant surface water, groundwater, coastal, recreational, timber, or fish or wildlife resources which cannot otherwise be accomplished through local and state regulatory programs;
- (e) To promote water resource development that benefits natural systems and citizens of the state;
- (f) To facilitate the restoration and subsequent health and vitality of the Florida Everglades;
- (g) To provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural resource based recreation and other outdoor recreation on any part of any site compatible with conservation purposes;
- (h) To preserve significant archaeological or historic sites; or
- (i) To conserve urban open spaces suitable for greenways or outdoor recreation which are compatible with conservation purposes.

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(j) To preserve agricultural lands under threat of conversion to development through less-than-fee aquisitions.

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- (a) Lands acquired under this section shall be for use as state-designated parks, recreation areas, preserves, reserves, historic or archaeological sites, geologic or botanical sites, recreational trails, forests, wilderness areas, wildlife management areas, urban open space, or other state-designated recreation or conservation lands; or they shall qualify for such state designation and use if they are to be managed by other governmental agencies or nonstate entities as provided for in this section.
- (b) In addition to the uses allowed in paragraph (a), moneys may be transferred from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the Florida Forever Trust Fund or the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. This paragraph expires July 1, 2007.
- (5) The board of trustees may allocate, in any year, an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the money credited to the fund in that year, such allocation to be used for the purposes of 253.0325(2) the initiation and maintenance of a natural areas inventory to aid in the identification of areas to be acquired pursuant to this section.
- (6) Moneys in the fund not needed to meet obligations incurred under this section shall be deposited with the Chief Financial Officer to the credit of the fund and may be invested in the manner provided by law. Interest received on such investments shall be credited to the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund.

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- (7) The board of trustees may enter into any contract necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section. The lead land managing agencies designated by the board of trustees also are directed by the Legislature, to the greatest extent possible, to enter into contracts or interagency agreements with other governmental entities, including local soil and water conservation districts, or private land managers who have the expertise to perform specific management activities which a lead agency lacks, or which would cost more to provide in-house. Such activities shall include, but not be limited to, controlled burning, road and ditch maintenance, mowing, and wildlife assessments.
- Lands to be considered for purchase under this section are subject to the selection procedures of s. 259.035 and related rules and shall be acquired in accordance with acquisition procedures for state lands provided for in s. 259.041, except as otherwise provided by the Legislature. An inholding or an addition to a project selected for purchase pursuant to this chapter is not subject to the selection procedures of s. 259.035 if the estimated value of such inholding or addition does not exceed \$500,000. When at least 90 percent of the acreage of a project has been purchased pursuant to this chapter, the project may be removed from the list and the remaining acreage may continue to be purchased. Moneys from the fund may be used for title work, appraisal fees, environmental audits, and survey costs related to acquisition expenses for lands to be acquired, donated, or exchanged which qualify under the categories of this section, at the discretion

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of the board. When the Legislature has authorized the Department of Environmental Protection to condemn a specific parcel of land and such parcel has already been approved for acquisition under this section, the land may be acquired in accordance with the provisions of chapter 73 or chapter 74, and the fund may be used to pay the condemnation award and all costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee, associated with condemnation.

- (9) All lands managed under this chapter and s. 253.034 shall be:
- (a) Managed in a manner that will provide the greatest combination of benefits to the public, including public access, and to the resources.
- (b) Managed for public outdoor recreation which is compatible with the conservation and protection of public lands. Such management may include, but not be limited to, the following public recreational uses: fishing, hunting, camping, bicycling, hiking, nature study, swimming, boating, canoeing, horseback riding, diving, model hobbyist activities, birding, sailing, jogging, and other related outdoor activities compatible with the purposes for which the lands were acquired.
- (c) Managed for the purposes for which the lands were acquired, consistent with paragraph (11)(a).
- (d) Concurrent with its adoption of the annual Conservation and Recreation Lands list of acquisition projects pursuant to s. 259.035, the board of trustees shall adopt a management prospectus for each project. The management prospectus shall delineate:
  - 1. The management goals for the property;

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- 2. The conditions that will affect the intensity of management;
  - 3. An estimate of the revenue-generating potential of the property, if appropriate;
  - 4. A timetable for implementing the various stages of management and for providing access to the public, if applicable;
  - 5. A description of potential multiple-use activities as described in this section and s. 253.034;
  - 6. Provisions for protecting existing infrastructure and for ensuring the security of the project upon acquisition;
  - 7. The anticipated costs of management and projected sources of revenue, including legislative appropriations, to fund management needs; and
  - 8. Recommendations as to how many employees will be needed to manage the property, and recommendations as to whether local governments, volunteer groups, the former landowner, or other interested parties can be involved in the management.

    The costs of infrastructure and management identified in the management prospectus will be standardized and aggregated in a manner sufficient to allow reporting to board of trustee and the legislature.
  - (e) Concurrent with the approval of the acquisition contract pursuant to s. 259.041(3)(c) for any interest in lands except those lands being acquired under the provisions of s. 259.1052, the board of trustees shall designate an agency or agencies to manage such lands. The board shall evaluate and amend, as appropriate, the management policy statement for the

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project as provided by s. 259.035, consistent with the purposes for which the lands are acquired. For any fee simple acquisition of a parcel which is or will be leased back for agricultural purposes, or any acquisition of a less-than-fee interest in land that is or will be used for agricultural purposes, the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall first consider having a soil and water conservation district, created pursuant to chapter 582, manage and monitor such interests.

- (f) State agencies designated to manage lands acquired under this chapter except those lands acquired under s. 259.1052 may contract with local governments,—and soil and water conservation districts, and private entities to assist in management activities,—including the responsibility of being the lead land manager. Such land management contracts may include a provision for the transfer of management funding to the local government or soil and water conservation district from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund in an amount adequate for the local government or soil and water conservation district to perform its contractual land management responsibilities and proportionate to its responsibilities, and which otherwise would have been expended by the state agency to manage the property.
- (g) Immediately following the acquisition of any interest in lands under this chapter, the Department of Environmental Protection, acting on behalf of the board of trustees, may issue to the lead managing entity an interim assignment letter to be effective until the execution of a formal lease.

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- (a) State, regional, or local governmental agencies or private entities designated to manage lands under this section shall develop and adopt, with the approval of the board of trustees, an individual <u>land</u> management plan for each project designed to conserve and protect such lands and their associated natural resources. Private sector involvement in <u>land</u> management plan development may be used to expedite the planning process.
- Individual land management plans required by s. (b) 253.034(5), for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group. Members of this advisory group shall include, at a minimum, representatives of the lead land managing agency, comanaging entities, local private property owners, the appropriate soil and water conservation district, a local conservation organization, and a local elected official. The advisory group shall conduct at least two public hearings one public hearing within the county in which the parcel or project is located. For those parcels or projects that are within more than one county, at least one additional areawide public hearing shall be acceptable and the lead managing agency shall invite a local elected official from each county. The areawide public hearing shall be held in the county in which the core parcels are located. Notice of such public hearing shall be posted on the parcel or project designated for management, advertised in a paper of general circulation, and announced at a scheduled meeting of the local governing body before the actual public hearing. The management prospectus required pursuant to paragraph (9)(d) shall be available to the public for a period of 30 days prior each to the public hearing.

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- (c) Once a plan is adopted, the managing agency or entity shall update the plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule of the board of trustees. Such updates, for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group. Such plans may include transfers of leasehold interests to appropriate conservation organizations or governmental entities designated by the Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council or its successor, for uses consistent with the purposes of the organizations and the protection, preservation, conservation, restoration, and proper management of the lands and their resources. Volunteer management assistance is encouraged, including, but not limited to, assistance by youths participating in programs sponsored by state or local agencies, by volunteers sponsored by environmental or civic organizations, and by individuals participating in programs for committed delinquents and adults.
- (d)1. For each project for which lands are acquired after July 1, 2008 1995, an individual land management plan shall be adopted and in place no later than 1 year after the essential parcel or parcels identified in the priority list developed pursuant to ss. 259.101(4) and 259.105 have been acquired. The Department of Environmental Protection shall distribute only 75 percent of the acquisition funds to which a budget entity or water management district would otherwise be entitled from the Preservation 2000 Trust Fund to any budget entity or any water management district that has more than one-third of its land management plans overdue.

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- 2. The requirements of subparagraph 1. do not apply to the individual management plan for the Babcock Crescent B Ranch being acquired pursuant to s. 259.1052. The management plan for the ranch shall be adopted and in place no later than 2 years following the date of acquisition by the state.
- (e) Individual <u>land</u> management plans shall conform to the <u>requirements of 253.034(5) and the</u> appropriate policies and guidelines of the state land management plan and shall include, but not be limited to:
- 1. A statement of the purpose for which the lands were acquired, the projected use or uses as defined in s. 253.034, and the statutory authority for such use or uses.
- 2. Key management activities necessary to <u>achieve the</u> desired outcome, including but not limited, providing public access, preserving and protecting natural resources and restoring habitat, controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals, performing prescribed fire activities and other appropriate resource management activities preserve and protect natural resources and restore habitat, and for controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals, and for prescribed fire and other appropriate resource management activities.
- 3. A specific description of how the managing agency plans to identify, locate, protect, and preserve, or otherwise use fragile, nonrenewable natural and cultural resources.
- 4. A priority schedule for conducting management activities, based on the desired outcome of the land management plan purposes for which the lands were acquired.

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- 5. A cost estimate for conducting priority management activities, to include recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities.
- 6. A cost estimate for conducting other management activities which would enhance the natural resource value or public recreation value for which the lands were acquired. The cost estimate shall include recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities.
- 7. A determination of the public uses and public access that are to be provided and would be consistent with the purposes for which the lands were acquired.
- (f) The Division of State Lands shall submit a copy of each individual <u>land</u> management plan for parcels <del>which exceed</del> 160 acres in size to each member of the Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council or its successor, which shall:
- 1. Within 60 days after receiving a plan from the division, review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection, 253.034(5), and with the requirements of the rules established by the board pursuant to this subsection.
- 2. Consider the propriety of the recommendations of the managing agency with regard to the future use or protection of the property.
- 3. After its review, submit the plan, along with its recommendations and comments, to the board of trustees, with recommendations as to whether to approve the plan as submitted approve the plan with modifications, or reject the plan.
- (g) The board of trustees shall consider the individual management plan submitted by each state agency and the

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recommendations of the Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council, or its successor, and the Division of State Lands and shall approve the plan with or without modification or reject such plan. The use or possession of any lands owned by the board of trustees which is not in accordance with an approved individual management plan is subject to termination by the board of trustees.

By July 1 of each year, each governmental agency and each private entity designated to manage lands shall report to the Secretary of Environmental Protection on the progress of funding, staffing, and resource management of every project for which the agency or entity is responsible.

1012 (11)

- (a) The Legislature recognizes that acquiring lands pursuant to this chapter serves the public interest by protecting land, air, and water resources which contribute to the public health and welfare, providing areas for natural resource based recreation, and ensuring the survival of unique and irreplaceable plant and animal species. The Legislature intends for these lands to be managed and maintained for the purposes for which they were acquired and for the public to have access to and use of these lands where it is consistent with acquisition purposes and would not harm the resources the state is seeking to protect on the public's behalf.
- (b) An amount up to 1.5 percent of the cumulative total of funds ever deposited into the Florida Preservation 2000 Trust Fund and the Florida Forever Trust Fund shall be made available

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for the purposes of management, maintenance, and capital improvements not eligible for funding pursuant to s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State Constitution, and for associated contractual services, for lands acquired pursuant to this section, s. 259.101, s. 259.105, s. 259.1052, or previous programs for the acquisition of lands for conservation and recreation, including state forests, to which title is vested in the board of trustees and other conservation and recreation lands managed by a state agency. Of this amount, \$250,000 shall be transferred annually to the Plant Industry Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the purpose of implementing the Endangered or Threatened Native Flora Conservation Grants Program pursuant to s. 581.185(11). Each agency with management responsibilities shall annually request from the Legislature funds sufficient to fulfill such responsibilities. For the purposes of this paragraph, capital improvements shall include, but need not be limited to, perimeter fencing, signs, firelanes, access roads and trails, and minimal public accommodations, such as primitive campsites, garbage receptacles, and toilets. Any equipment purchased with funds provided pursuant to this paragraph may be used for appropriate land management activities on state lands the purposes described in this paragraph on any conservation and recreation lands managed by a state agency.

(c) The Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, the Executive Director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Commissioner of Agriculture shall prepare and deliver a report to the President of the

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Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than December 31, 2008 that provides the methodology used and recommendation that provides a formula to allocate land management In requesting funds provided for in paragraph (b) for long-term management of all acquisitions pursuant to this chapter and for associated contractual services. The methodology and formula shall recognize recognize, but not be limited to, the following: the managing agencies shall recognize the following categories of land management needs:

- 1. The assignment of management intensity associated with the natural community categories, groups and types provided in 253.0325(2) and the related management activities to land management goals provided in 253.034(5).
- 2. The assignment of management intensity associated with public access, including but not limited to:
- a. The acres of land which require minimal effort for resource preservation, development, or restoration these lands generally are open to the public but offer no more than minimally developed facilities;
- b. The acres of land which require moderate effort for resource preservation, development, or restoration these lands typically have a high degree of public use and offer highly developed facilities;
- c. The acres of land which require significant effort for resource preservation, development, or restoration these lands generally are sites with historic significance or unique natural features, and a very high degree of public use.

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- 1082 3. The acres of land with a secondary manager contributing to the over-all management effort.
  - 4. The anticipated revenues generated from management of the lands.
  - 5. The impacts of, and needs created or addressed by, multiple-use management strategies.
  - 6. The acres of land with infestations of non-native or invasive plants, animals, or fish.
  - 1. Lands which are low-need tracts, requiring basic resource management and protection, such as state reserves, state preserves, state forests, and wildlife management areas. These lands generally are open to the public but have no more than minimum facilities development.
  - 2. Lands which are moderate-need tracts, requiring more than basic resource management and protection, such as state parks and state recreation areas. These lands generally have extra restoration or protection needs, higher concentrations of public use, or more highly developed facilities.
  - 3. Lands which are high-need tracts, with identified needs requiring unique site-specific resource management and protection. These lands generally are sites with historic significance, unique natural features, or very high intensity public use, or sites that require extra funds to stabilize or protect resources, such as lands with heavy infestations of nonnative, invasive plants.

In evaluating the management funding needs of lands based on the above categories, the lead land managing agencies shall include

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in their considerations the impacts of, and needs created or addressed by, multiple-use management strategies. Beginning July 1, 2009, no fund provided in paragraph (b) shall be allocated, distributed or expended until the allocation formula for funding land management activities has be affirmed by the legislature. Upon affirmation, the allocation formula will be used in the allocation and distribution of funds provided in paragraph (b).,

- (d) All revenues generated through multiple-use management or compatible secondary-use management shall be returned to the lead agency responsible for such management and shall be used to pay for management activities on all conservation, preservation, and recreation lands under the agency's jurisdiction. In addition, such revenues shall be segregated in an agency trust fund and shall remain available to the agency in subsequent fiscal years to support land management appropriations. For the purposes of this paragraph, compatible secondary-use management shall be those activities described in subsection (9) undertaken on parcels designated as single use pursuant to s. 253.034(2)(b).
- (e) Up to one-fifth of the funds provided for in paragraph (b) shall be reserved by the board of trustees for interim management of acquisitions and for associated contractual services, to ensure the conservation and protection of natural resources on project sites and to allow limited public recreational use of lands. Interim management activities may include, but not be limited to, resource assessments, control of invasive, nonnative species, habitat restoration, fencing, law

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enforcement, controlled burning, and public access consistent with preliminary determinations made pursuant to paragraph (9)(g). The board of trustees shall make these interim funds available immediately upon purchase.

- (f) The department shall set long-range and annual goals for the control and removal of nonnative, invasive plant species on public lands. Such goals shall differentiate between aquatic plant species and upland plant species. In setting such goals, the department may rank, in order of adverse impact, species that impede or destroy the functioning of natural systems. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), up to one-fourth of the funds provided for in paragraph (b) may be used by the agencies receiving those funds for control and removal of nonnative, invasive species on public lands.
- (g) In addition to the purposes specified in paragraph (b), funds from the 1.5 percent of the cumulative total of funds ever deposited into the Florida Preservation 2000 Trust Fund and the Florida Forever Trust Fund may be appropriated for the 2006-2007 fiscal year for the construction of replacement museum facilities. This paragraph expires July 1, 2007.

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(a) Beginning July 1, 1999, the Legislature shall make available sufficient funds annually from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the department for payment in lieu of taxes to qualifying counties and local governments as defined in paragraph (b) for all actual tax losses incurred as a result of board of trustees acquisitions for state agencies under the Florida Forever program or the Florida Preservation

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2000 program during any year. Reserved funds not used for payments in lieu of taxes in any year shall revert to the fund to be used for land management in accordance with the provisions of this section.

- (b) Payment in lieu of taxes shall be available:
- 1. To all counties that have a population of 150,000 or fewer. Population levels shall be determined pursuant to s. 11.031.
  - 2. To all local governments located in eligible counties.
- 3. To Glades County, where a privately owned and operated prison leased to the state has recently been opened and where privately owned and operated juvenile justice facilities leased to the state have recently been constructed and opened, a payment in lieu of taxes, in an amount that offsets the loss of property tax revenue, which funds have already been appropriated and allocated from the Department of Correction's budget for the purpose of reimbursing amounts equal to lost ad valorem taxes.
- (c) If insufficient funds are available in any year to make full payments to all qualifying counties and local governments, such counties and local governments shall receive a pro rata share of the moneys available.
- (d) The payment amount shall be based on the average amount of actual taxes paid on the property for the 3 years preceding acquisition. Applications for payment in lieu of taxes shall be made no later than January 31 of the year following acquisition. No payment in lieu of taxes shall be made for properties which were exempt from ad valorem taxation for the year immediately preceding acquisition.

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- (e) If property which was subject to ad valorem taxation was acquired by a tax-exempt entity for ultimate conveyance to the state under this chapter, payment in lieu of taxes shall be made for such property based upon the average amount of taxes paid on the property for the 3 years prior to its being removed from the tax rolls. The department shall certify to the Department of Revenue those properties that may be eligible under this provision. Once eligibility has been established, that county or local government shall receive 10 consecutive annual payments for each tax loss, and no further eligibility determination shall be made during that period.
- shall be made annually to qualifying counties and local governments after certification by the Department of Revenue that the amounts applied for are reasonably appropriate, based on the amount of actual taxes paid on the eligible property. With the assistance of the local government requesting payment in lieu of taxes, the state agency that acquired the land is responsible for preparing and submitting application requests for payment to the Department of Revenue for certification.
- (g) If the board of trustees conveys to a local government title to any land owned by the board, any payments in lieu of taxes on the land made to the local government shall be discontinued as of the date of the conveyance.

For the purposes of this subsection, "local government" includes municipalities, the county school board, mosquito control districts, and any other local government entity which levies ad

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valorem taxes, with the exception of a water management district.

- (13) Moneys credited to the fund each year which are not used for management, maintenance, or capital improvements pursuant to subsection (11); for payment in lieu of taxes pursuant to subsection (12); or for the purposes of subsection (5), shall be available for the acquisition of land pursuant to this section.
- (14) The board of trustees may adopt rules to further define the categories of land for acquisition under this chapter.
- (15) Within 90 days after receiving a certified letter from the owner of a property on the Conservation and Recreation Lands list or the priority list established pursuant to s. 259.105 objecting to the property being included in an acquisition project, where such property is a project or part of a project which has not been listed for purchase in the current year's land acquisition work plan, the board of trustees shall delete the property from the list or from the boundary of an acquisition project on the list.
- Section 9. Section 259.035, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 259.035 Acquisition and Restoration Council. --
- 1245 (1) There is created the Acquisition and Restoration 1246 Council.
- 1247 (a) The council shall be composed of nine voting members,

  1248 two four of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, one

  1249 appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer

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Services, and one appointed by the Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission. These four appointees shall be from
scientific disciplines related to <u>agriculture</u> , land, water, or
environmental sciences. They shall serve 4-year terms, except
that, initially, to provide for staggered terms, two of the
appointees shall serve 2-year terms. All subsequent appointments
shall be for 4-year terms. No appointee shall serve more than 6
years. The Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer
Services, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission may
at any time fill a vacancy for their receptive appointment for
the unexpired term of a member appointed under this paragraph.

- (b) The five remaining appointees shall be composed of the Secretary of Environmental Protection, the director of the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the director of the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State, and the secretary of the Department of Community Affairs, or their respective designees.
- (c) The Governor shall appoint the chair of the council, and a vice chair shall be elected from among the members.
- (d) The council shall hold periodic meetings at the request of the chair.
- (e) The Department of Environmental Protection shall provide primary staff support to the council and shall ensure that council meetings are electronically recorded. Such recording shall be preserved pursuant to chapters 119 and 257.

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- (f) The board of trustees has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this section.
- (2) The four <u>appointed</u> members of the council <u>appointed by</u> the Governor shall receive \$75 per day while engaged in the business of the council, as well as <u>reimbursement for</u> expenses and per diem <u>for travel to attend council meetings</u>, <u>including</u> attendance at meetings, as allowed state officers and employees while in the performance of their duties, pursuant to s. 112.061.
- (3) The council shall provide assistance to the board of trustees in reviewing the recommendations and plans for state-owned lands required under ss. 253.034 and 259.032. The council shall, in reviewing such recommendations and plans, consider the optimization of multiple-use and conservation strategies to accomplish the provisions funded pursuant to ss. 259.101(3)(a) and 259.105(3)(b).
- (4) The council may use existing rules adopted by the board of trustees, until it develops and recommends amendments to those rules, to competitively evaluate, select, and rank projects eligible for the Conservation and Recreation Lands list pursuant to ss. 259.032(3) and 259.101(4) and, beginning no later than May 1, 2001, for Florida Forever funds pursuant to s. 259.105(3)(b). In developing or amending the rules, the council shall give weight to the criteria included in s. 259.105(10). The board of trustees shall review the recommendations and shall adopt rules necessary to administer this section.

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- (5) An affirmative vote of five members of the council is required in order to change a project boundary or to place a proposed project on a list developed pursuant to subsection (4). Any member of the council who by family or a business relationship has a connection with all or a portion of any proposed project shall declare the interest before voting on its inclusion on a list.
- The proposal for a project pursuant to this section or s. 259.105(3)(b) may be implemented only if adopted by the council and approved by the board of trustees. The council shall consider and evaluate in writing the merits and demerits of each project that is proposed for Conservation and Recreation Lands, Florida Preservation 2000, or Florida Forever funding and shall ensure that each proposed project will meet a stated public purpose for the restoration, conservation, or preservation of environmentally sensitive lands and water areas or for providing outdoor recreational opportunities. The council also shall determine whether the project conforms, where applicable, with the comprehensive plan developed pursuant to s. 259.04(1)(a), the comprehensive multipurpose outdoor recreation plan developed pursuant to s. 375.021, the state lands management plan adopted pursuant to s. 253.03(7), the water resources work plans developed pursuant to s. 373.199, and the provisions of s. 259.032, s. 259.101, or s. 259.105, whichever is applicable. Section 10. Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 259.036 Management review teams. --

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- (1) To determine whether conservation, preservation, and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired, and in accordance with a land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, and achieving the goals of the land management plans provided in 353.034(5), the board of trustees, acting through the Department of Environmental Protection, shall cause periodic management reviews to be conducted as follows:
- (a) The department shall establish a regional land management review team composed of the following members:
- 1. One individual who is from the county or local community in which the parcel or project is located and who is selected by the county commission in the county which is most impacted by the acquisition.
- 2. One individual from the Division of Recreation and Parks of the department or one individual from the department's district office in which the parcel is located.
- 3. One individual from the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- 4. One individual from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
- 5. One individual from the department's district office in which the parcel is located.
- 6. A private land manager <u>selected by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services</u> <u>mutually agreeable to the state agency representatives</u>.

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- 7. A member of the local soil and water conservation district board of supervisors.
  - 8. A member of a conservation organization.
  - 9. A private land manager selected by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
  - (b) The staff of the Division of State Lands shall act as the review team coordinator for the purposes of establishing schedules for the reviews and other staff functions. The Legislature shall appropriate funds necessary to implement land management review team functions.
  - management areas prior to the date the manager is required to submit a 10-year land management plan update. For management areas that exceed 1,000 acres in size, the Division of State Lands shall schedule a land management review at least every 5 years. A copy of the review shall be provided to the manager, the Division of State Lands, and the Acquisition and Restoration Council. The manager shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review team in finalizing the required 10-year update of its management plan.
  - (3) In conducting a review, the land management review team shall evaluate the extent to which the existing management plan provides sufficient protection to threatened or endangered species, unique or important natural or physical features, geological or hydrological functions, or archaeological features. The review shall also evaluate the extent to which the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and the degree to which actual management practices, including

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public access, are in compliance with the adopted management plan.

- (4) In the event a land management plan has not been adopted within the timeframes specified in s. 259.032(10), the department may direct a management review of the property, to be conducted by the land management review team. The review shall consider the extent to which the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and the degree to which actual management practices are in compliance with the management policy statement and management prospectus for that property.
- (5) If the land management review team determines that reviewed lands are not being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired or in compliance with the adopted land management plan, management policy statement, or management prospectus, or if the managing agency fails to address the review findings in the updated management plan, the department shall provide the review findings to the board, and the managing agency must report to the board its reasons for managing the lands as it has.
- (6) No later than the second board meeting in October of each year, the department shall report the annual review findings of its land management review team.
- Section 11. Section 259.037, Florida Stautes, is amended to read.
  - 259.037 Land Management Uniform Accounting Council. --
- 1412 (1) The Land Management Uniform Accounting Council is
  1413 created within the Department of Environmental Protection and

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shall consist of the director of the Division of State Lands, the director of the Division of Recreation and Parks, the director of the Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas, and the director of the Office of Greenways and Trails of the Department of Environmental Protection; the director of the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; the executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; and the director of the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State, or their respective designees. Each state agency represented on the council shall have one vote. The chair of the council shall rotate annually in the foregoing order of state agencies. The agency of the representative serving as chair of the council shall provide staff support for the council. The Division of State Lands shall serve as the recipient of and repository for the council's documents. The council shall meet at the request of the chair.

- (2) The Auditor General and the director of the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, or their designees, shall advise the council to ensure that appropriate accounting procedures are utilized and that a uniform method of collecting and reporting accurate costs of land management activities are created and can be used by all agencies.
- (3) (a) All land management activities and costs must be assigned to a specific category, and any single activity or cost may not be assigned to more than one category. Administrative costs, such as planning or training, shall be segregated from other management activities. Specific management activities and

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1442 costs must initially be grouped, at a minimum, within the 1443 following categories:

- 1. (a) Resource management.
- 2.<del>(b)</del> Administration.
- 1446 3.<del>(c)</del> New facility construction.
- 1447 4. (d) Facility maintenance.

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- Upon adoption of the initial list of land management categories by the council, agencies assigned to manage conservation or recreation lands shall, on July 1, 2000, begin to account for land management costs in accordance with the category to which an expenditure is assigned.
  - (b) Each reporting agency shall also:
- a. Include a report of the available public use options for each tract of state land and the total management cost for public access and public use and the cost associated with each use option.
- b. List the acres of land requiring minimal management effort, moderate management effort, and significant management effort. For each category they shall include the amount of funds requested, the amount of funds received, and the amount of funds expended for land management. The report shall also include a description of planned management activities and accomplished land management activities.
- c. List acres managed and cost of management for each tract by natural community delineation, based on the Florida Natural Areas Inventory's 1990 hierarchical classification,

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including the natural community category, the natural community group, and the natural community type.

- d. List acres managed, cost of management, and lead manager for state lands tracts for which secondary management activities were provided.
- (4) The council shall report agencies' expenditures pursuant to the adopted categories to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives annually, beginning July 1, 2001. The council shall also provide this report to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for inclusion in its annual report required pursuant to s. 259.105.
- (5) Should the council determine that the list of land management categories needs to be revised, it shall meet upon the call of the chair.
- Section 12. Section 259.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 259.105 The Florida Forever Act.--
- 1486 (1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Forever 1487 Act."
- 1488 (2)

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- 1489 (a) The Legislature finds and declares that:
  - 1. The Preservation 2000 program provided tremendous financial resources for purchasing environmentally significant lands to protect those lands from imminent development, thereby assuring present and future generations access to important open spaces and recreation and conservation lands.
  - 2. The continued alteration and development of Florida's natural areas to accommodate the state's rapidly growing

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population have contributed to the degradation of water resources, the fragmentation and destruction of wildlife habitats, the loss of outdoor recreation space, and the diminishment of wetlands, forests, and public beaches.

- 3. The potential development of Florida's remaining natural areas and escalation of land values require a continuation of government efforts to restore, bring under public protection, or acquire lands and water areas to preserve the state's invaluable quality of life.
- 4. Florida's groundwater, surface waters, and springs are under tremendous pressure due to population growth and economic expansion and require special protection and restoration efforts. To ensure that sufficient quantities of water are available to meet the current and future needs of the natural systems and citizens of the state, and assist in achieving the planning goals of the department and the water management districts, water resource development projects on public lands, where compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for the lands, are appropriate.
- 5. The needs of urban Florida for high-quality outdoor recreational opportunities, greenways, trails, and open space have not been fully met by previous acquisition programs.

  Through such programs as the Florida Communities Trust and the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program, the state shall place additional emphasis on acquiring, protecting, preserving, and restoring open space, greenways, and recreation properties within urban areas where pristine natural communities

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or water bodies no longer exist because of the proximity of developed property.

- 6. Many of Florida's unique ecosystems, such as the Florida Everglades, are facing ecological collapse due to Florida's burgeoning population. To preserve these valuable ecosystems for future generations, parcels of land must be acquired to facilitate ecosystem restoration.
- 7. Access to public lands to support a broad range of outdoor recreational opportunities and the development of necessary infrastructure, where compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands, promotes an appreciation for Florida's natural assets and improves the quality of life.
- 8. Acquisition of lands, in fee simple or in any lesser interest, should be based on a comprehensive assessment of Florida's natural resources and planned so as to protect the integrity of ecological systems and provide multiple benefits, including preservation of fish and wildlife habitat, recreation space for urban as well as rural areas, and water recharge.
- 9. The state has embraced performance-based program budgeting as a tool to evaluate the achievements of publicly funded agencies, build in accountability, and reward those agencies which are able to consistently achieve quantifiable goals. While previous and existing state environmental programs have achieved varying degrees of success, few of these programs can be evaluated as to the extent of their achievements, primarily because performance measures, standards, outcomes, and goals were not established at the outset. Therefore, the Florida

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Forever program shall be developed and implemented in the context of measurable state goals and objectives.

- 10. It is the intent of the Legislature to change the focus and direction of the state's major land acquisition programs and to extend funding and bonding capabilities, so that future generations may enjoy the natural resources of Florida.
- (b) The Legislature recognizes that acquisition is only one way to achieve the aforementioned goals and encourages the development of creative partnerships between governmental agencies and private landowners. Land protection agreements and similar tools should be used, where appropriate, to bring environmentally sensitive tracts under an acceptable level of protection at a lower financial cost to the public, and to provide private landowners with the opportunity to enjoy and benefit from their property.
- (c) Public agencies or other entities that receive funds under this section are encouraged to better coordinate their expenditures so that project acquisitions, when combined with acquisitions under Preservation 2000, Save Our Rivers, the Florida Communities Trust, and other public land acquisition programs, will form more complete patterns of protection for natural areas and functioning ecosystems, to better accomplish the intent of this section.
- (d) A long-term financial commitment to managing Florida's public lands must accompany any new land acquisition program to ensure that the natural resource values of such lands are protected, that the public has the opportunity to enjoy the

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lands to their fullest potential, and that the state achieves the full benefits of its investment of public dollars.

- (e) With limited dollars available for restoration and acquisition of land and water areas and for providing long-term management and capital improvements, a competitive selection process can select those projects best able to meet the goals of Florida Forever and maximize the efficient use of the program's funding.
- (f) To ensure success and provide accountability to the citizens of this state, it is the intent of the Legislature that any bond proceeds used pursuant to this section be used to implement the goals and objectives recommended by the Florida Forever Advisory Council as approved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund and the Legislature.
- (g) As it has with previous land acquisition programs, the Legislature recognizes the desires of the citizens of this state to prosper through economic development and to preserve the natural areas and recreational open space of Florida. The Legislature further recognizes the urgency of restoring the natural functions of public lands or water bodies before they are degraded to a point where recovery may never occur, yet acknowledges the difficulty of ensuring adequate funding for restoration efforts in light of other equally critical financial needs of the state. It is the Legislature's desire and intent to fund the implementation of this section and to do so in a fiscally responsible manner, by issuing bonds to be repaid with documentary stamp tax revenue.

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- (h) The Legislature further recognizes the important role that many of our state and federal military installations contribute to protecting and preserving Florida's natural resources as well as our economic prosperity. Where the state's land conservation plans overlap with the military's need to protect lands, waters, and habitat to ensure the sustainability of military missions, it is the Legislature's intent that agencies receiving funds under this program cooperate with our military partners to protect and buffer military installations and military airspace, by:
- 1. Protecting habitat on nonmilitary land for any species found on military land that is designated as threatened or endangered, or is a candidate for such designation under the Endangered Species Act or any Florida statute;
- 2. Protecting areas underlying low-level military air corridors or operating areas; and
- 3. Protecting areas identified as clear zones, accident potential zones, and air installation compatible use buffer zones delineated by our military partners.
- (3) Less the costs of issuing and the costs of funding reserve accounts and other costs associated with bonds, the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund created by s. 259.1051. The proceeds shall be distributed by the Department of Environmental Protection in the following manner:
- (a) Thirty-five percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition of lands and capital project expenditures necessary to implement the water management

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districts' priority lists developed pursuant to s. 373.199. The funds are to be distributed to the water management districts as provided in subsection (11). A minimum of 50 percent of the total funds provided over the life of the Florida Forever program pursuant to this paragraph shall be used for the acquisition of lands.

- (b) Thirty-five percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition of lands and capital project expenditures described in this section. Of the proceeds distributed pursuant to this paragraph, it is the intent of the Legislature that an increased priority be given to those acquisitions which achieve a combination of conservation goals, including protecting Florida's water resources and natural groundwater recharge. Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Twenty-two percent to the Department of Community
  Affairs for use by the Florida Communities Trust for the
  purposes of part III of chapter 380, as described and limited by
  this subsection, and grants to local governments or nonprofit
  environmental organizations that are tax-exempt under s.
  501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code for the
  acquisition of community-based projects, urban open spaces,
  parks, and greenways to implement local government comprehensive
  plans. From funds available to the trust and used for land
  acquisition, 75 percent shall be matched by local governments on
  a dollar-for-dollar basis. The Legislature intends that the
  Florida Communities Trust emphasize funding projects in low-

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income or otherwise disadvantaged communities. At least 30 percent of the total allocation provided to the trust shall be used in Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, but one-half of that amount shall be used in localities in which the project site is located in built-up commercial, industrial, or mixed-use areas and functions to intersperse open spaces within congested urban core areas. From funds allocated to the trust, no less than 5 percent shall be used to acquire lands for recreational trail systems, provided that in the event these funds are not needed for such projects, they will be available for other trust projects. Local governments may use federal grants or loans, private donations, or environmental mitigation funds, including environmental mitigation funds required pursuant to s. 338.250, for any part or all of any local match required for acquisitions funded through the Florida Communities Trust. Any lands purchased by nonprofit organizations using funds allocated under this paragraph must provide for such lands to remain permanently in public use through a reversion of title to local or state government, conservation easement, or other appropriate mechanism. Projects funded with funds allocated to the Trust shall be selected in a competitive process measured against criteria adopted in rule by the Trust.

- (d) Two percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for grants pursuant to s. 375.075.
- (e) One and five-tenths percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the purchase of inholdings and additions to state parks and for capital project expenditures as

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described in this section. Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "state park" means any real property in the state which is under the jurisdiction of the Division of Recreation and Parks of the department, or which may come under its jurisdiction.

- (f) One and five-tenths percent to the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to fund the acquisition of state forest inholdings and additions pursuant to s. 589.07, the implementation of reforestation plans or sustainable forestry management practices, and for capital project expenditures as described in this section. Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph.
- (g) One and five-tenths percent to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to fund the acquisition of inholdings and additions to lands managed by the commission which are important to the conservation of fish and wildlife and for capital project expenditures as described in this section. Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph.
- (h) One and five-tenths percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the Florida Greenways and Trails Program, to acquire greenways and trails or greenways and trail systems pursuant to chapter 260, including, but not limited to, abandoned railroad rights-of-way and the Florida National Scenic Trail and for capital project expenditures as described in this

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section. Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph.

- (i) It is the intent of the Legislature that proceeds of Florida Forever bonds distributed under this section shall be expended in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner. An agency that receives proceeds from Florida Forever bonds under this section may not maintain a balance of unencumbered funds in its Florida Forever subaccount beyond 3 fiscal years from the date of deposit of funds from each bond issue. Any funds that have not been expended or encumbered after 3 fiscal years from the date of deposit shall be distributed by the Legislature at its next regular session for use in the Florida Forever program.
- For the purposes of paragraphs (d), (e), (f), and (g), the agencies which receive the funds shall develop their individual acquisition or restoration lists. Proposed additions may be acquired if they are identified within the original project boundary, the management plan required pursuant to s. 253.034(5), or the management prospectus required pursuant to s. 259.032(9)(d). Proposed additions not meeting the requirements of this paragraph shall be submitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for approval. The council may only approve the proposed addition if it meets two or more of the following criteria: serves as a link or corridor to other publicly owned property; enhances the protection or management of the property; would add a desirable resource to the property; would create a more manageable boundary configuration; has a high resource value that otherwise would be unprotected; or can be acquired at less than fair market value.

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- (4) It is the intent of the Legislature that projects or acquisitions funded pursuant to paragraphs (3)(a) and (b) contribute to the achievement of the following goals:
  - (a) Enhance the coordination and completion of land acquisition projects, as measured by:
  - 1. The number of acres acquired through the state's land acquisition programs that contribute to the completion of Florida Preservation 2000 projects or projects begun before Preservation 2000;
  - 2. The number of acres protected through the use of alternatives to fee simple acquisition; or
  - 3. The number of shared acquisition projects among Florida Forever funding partners and partners with other funding sources, including local governments and the Federal Government.
  - (b) Increase the protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community, and landscape levels, as measured by:
  - 1. The number of acres acquired of significant strategic habitat conservation areas;
  - 2. The number of acres acquired of highest priority conservation areas for Florida's rarest species;
  - 3. The number of acres acquired of significant landscapes, landscape linkages, and conservation corridors, giving priority to completing linkages;
- 1770 4. The number of acres acquired of underrepresented native ecosystems;
- 5. The number of landscape-sized protection areas of at least 50,000 acres that exhibit a mosaic of predominantly intact

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or restorable natural communities established through new acquisition projects or augmentations to previous projects; or

- 6. The percentage increase in the number of occurrences of endangered species, threatened species, or species of special concern on publicly managed conservation areas.
- (c) Protect, restore, and maintain the quality and natural functions of land, water, and wetland systems of the state, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres of publicly owned land identified as needing restoration, acres undergoing restoration, and acres with restoration activities completed;
- 2. The percentage of water segments that fully meet, partially meet, or do not meet their designated uses as reported in the Department of Environmental Protection's State Water Quality Assessment 305(b) Report;
- 3. The percentage completion of targeted capital improvements in surface water improvement and management plans created under s. 373.453(2), regional or master stormwater management system plans, or other adopted restoration plans;
- 4. The number of acres acquired that protect natural floodplain functions;
- 5. The number of acres acquired that protect surface waters of the state;
- 6. The number of acres identified for acquisition to minimize damage from flooding and the percentage of those acres acquired;
- 7. The number of acres acquired that protect fragile coastal resources;

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- 1802 8. The number of acres of functional wetland systems protected;
  - 9. The percentage of miles of critically eroding beaches contiguous with public lands that are restored or protected from further erosion;
  - 10. The percentage of public lakes and rivers in which invasive, nonnative aquatic plants are under maintenance control; or
  - 11. The number of acres of public conservation lands in which upland invasive, exotic plants are under maintenance control.
  - (d) Ensure that sufficient quantities of water are available to meet the current and future needs of natural systems and the citizens of the state, as measured by:
  - 1. The number of acres acquired which provide retention and storage of surface water in naturally occurring storage areas, such as lakes and wetlands, consistent with the maintenance of water resources or water supplies and consistent with district water supply plans;
  - 2. The quantity of water made available through the water resource development component of a district water supply plan for which a water management district is responsible; or
  - 3. The number of acres acquired of groundwater recharge areas critical to springs, sinks, aquifers, other natural systems, or water supply.
  - (e) Increase natural resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities, as measured by:

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- 1. The number of acres acquired that are available for natural resource-based public recreation or education;
- 2. The miles of trails that are available for public recreation, giving priority to those that provide significant connections including those that will assist in completing the Florida National Scenic Trail; or
- 3. The number of new resource-based recreation facilities, by type, made available on public land.
- (f) Preserve significant archaeological or historic sites, as measured by:
- 1. The increase in the number of and percentage of historic and archaeological properties listed in the Florida Master Site File or National Register of Historic Places which are protected or preserved for public use; or
- 2. The increase in the number and percentage of historic and archaeological properties that are in state ownership.
- (g) Increase the amount of forestland available for sustainable management of natural resources, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres acquired that are available for sustainable forest management;
- 2. The number of acres of state-owned forestland managed for economic return in accordance with current best management practices;
- 3. The number of acres of forestland acquired that will serve to maintain natural groundwater recharge functions; or
- 4. The percentage and number of acres identified for restoration actually restored by reforestation.

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- (h) Increase the amount of open space available in urban areas, as measured by:
  - The percentage of local governments that participate in land acquisition programs and acquire open space in urban cores;
  - 2. The percentage and number of acres of purchases of open space within urban service areas.

Florida Forever projects and acquisitions funded pursuant to paragraph (3)(c) shall be measured by goals developed by rule by the Florida Communities Trust Governing Board created in s. 380.504.

(5)

- (a) All lands acquired pursuant to this section shall be managed for multiple-use purposes, where compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands. As used in this section, "multiple-use" includes, but is not limited to, outdoor recreational activities as described in ss. 253.034 and 259.032(9)(b), water resource development projects, and sustainable forestry management.
- (b) Upon a decision by the entity in which title to lands acquired pursuant to this section has vested, such lands may be designated single use as defined in s. 253.034(2)(b).
- (6) As provided in this section, a water resource or water supply development project may be allowed only if the following conditions are met: minimum flows and levels have been established for those waters, if any, which may reasonably be expected to experience significant harm to water resources as a

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result of the project; the project complies with all applicable permitting requirements; and the project is consistent with the regional water supply plan, if any, of the water management district and with relevant recovery or prevention strategies if required pursuant to s. 373.0421(2).

**(7)** 

- (a) Beginning no later than July 1, 2001, and every year thereafter, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall accept applications from state agencies, local governments, nonprofit and for-profit organizations, private land trusts, and individuals for project proposals eligible for funding pursuant to paragraph (3) (b). The council shall evaluate the proposals received pursuant to this subsection to ensure that they meet at least one of the criteria under subsection (9).
- (b) Project applications shall contain, at a minimum, the following:
- 1. A minimum of two numeric performance measures that directly relate to the overall goals adopted by the council. Each performance measure shall include a baseline measurement, which is the current situation; a performance standard which the project sponsor anticipates the project will achieve; and the performance measurement itself, which should reflect the incremental improvements the project accomplishes towards achieving the performance standard.
- 2. Proof that property owners within any proposed acquisition have been notified of their inclusion in the proposed project. Any property owner may request the removal of such property from further consideration by submitting a request

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to the project sponsor or the Acquisition and Restoration Council by certified mail. Upon receiving this request, the council shall delete the property from the proposed project; however, the board of trustees, at the time it votes to approve the proposed project lists pursuant to subsection (16), may add the property back on to the project lists if it determines by a super majority of its members that such property is critical to achieve the purposes of the project.

- (c) The title to lands acquired under this section shall vest in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, except that title to lands acquired by a water management district shall vest in the name of that district and lands acquired by a local government shall vest in the name of the purchasing local government.
- (8) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall develop a project list that shall represent those projects submitted pursuant to subsection (7).
- (9) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall recommend rules for adoption by the board of trustees to competitively evaluate, select, and rank projects eligible for Florida Forever funds pursuant to paragraph (3)(b) and for additions to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list pursuant to ss. 259.032 and 259.101(4). In developing these proposed rules, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall give weight to the following criteria:
- (a) The project meets multiple goals described in subsection (4).

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- (b) The project is part of an ongoing governmental effort to restore, protect, or develop land areas or water resources.
- (c) The project enhances or facilitates management of properties already under public ownership.
- (d) The project has significant archaeological or historic value.
- (e) The project has funding sources that are identified and assured through at least the first 2 years of the project.
- (f) The project contributes to the solution of water resource problems on a regional basis.
- (g) The project has a significant portion of its land area in imminent danger of development, in imminent danger of losing its significant natural attributes or recreational open space, or in imminent danger of subdivision which would result in multiple ownership and make acquisition of the project costly or less likely to be accomplished.
- (h) The project implements an element from a plan developed by an ecosystem management team.
- (i) The project is one of the components of the Everglades restoration effort.
- (j) The project may be purchased at 80 percent of appraised value.
- (k) The project may be acquired, in whole or in part, using alternatives to fee simple, including but not limited to, purchase of development rights, hunting rights, agricultural or silvicultural rights, or mineral rights or obtaining conservation easements or flowage easements.

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- (1) The project is a joint acquisition, either among public agencies, nonprofit organizations, or private entities, or by a public-private partnership.
- increased priority to those projects for which matching funds are available and to project elements previously identified on an acquisition list pursuant to this section that can be acquired at 80 percent or less of appraised value. The council shall also give increased priority to those projects where the state's land conservation plans overlap with the military's need to protect lands, water, and habitat to ensure the sustainability of military missions including:
- (a) Protecting habitat on nonmilitary land for any species found on military land that is designated as threatened or endangered, or is a candidate for such designation under the Endangered Species Act or any Florida statute;
- (b) Protecting areas underlying low-level military air corridors or operating areas; and
- (c) Protecting areas identified as clear zones, accident potential zones, and air installation compatible use buffer zones delineated by our military partners, and for which federal or other funding is available to assist with the project.
- (11) For the purposes of funding projects pursuant to paragraph (3)(a), the Secretary of Environmental Protection shall ensure that each water management district receives the following percentage of funds annually:
- (a) Thirty-five percent to the South Florida Water Management District, of which amount \$25 million for 2 years

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beginning in fiscal year 2000-2001 shall be transferred by the Department of Environmental Protection into the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund and shall be used exclusively to implement the comprehensive plan under s. 373.470.

- (b) Twenty-five percent to the Southwest Florida Water Management District.
- (c) Twenty-five percent to the St. Johns River Water Management District.
- (d) Seven and one-half percent to the Suwannee River Water Management District.
- (e) Seven and one-half percent to the Northwest Florida Water Management District.
- developing the list of projects for funding pursuant to paragraph (3)(a), that these funds not be used to abrogate the financial responsibility of those point and nonpoint sources that have contributed to the degradation of water or land areas. Therefore, an increased priority shall be given by the water management district governing boards to those projects that have secured a cost-sharing agreement allocating responsibility for the cleanup of point and nonpoint sources.
- (13) An affirmative vote of five members of the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall be required in order to place a proposed project on the list developed pursuant to subsection (8). Any member of the council who by family or a business relationship has a connection with any project proposed to be ranked shall declare such interest prior to voting for a project's inclusion on the list.

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- (14) Each year that bonds are to be issued pursuant to this section, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review the most current approved project list and shall, by the first board meeting in May, present to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for approval a listing of projects developed pursuant to subsection (8). The board of trustees may remove projects from the list developed pursuant to this subsection, but may not add projects or rearrange project rankings.
- (15) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall submit to the board of trustees, with its list of projects, a report that includes, but shall not be limited to, the following information for each project listed:
  - (a) The stated purpose for inclusion.
  - (b) Projected costs to achieve the project goals.
  - (c) An interim management budget.
  - (d) Specific performance measures.
  - (e) Plans for public access.
- (f) An identification of the essential parcel or parcels within the project without which the project cannot be properly managed.
- (g) Where applicable, an identification of those projects or parcels within projects which should be acquired in fee simple or in less than fee simple.
- (h) An identification of those lands being purchased for conservation purposes.
- (i) A management policy statement for the project and a management prospectus pursuant to s. 259.032(9)(d).

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- 2050 (j) An estimate of land value based on county tax assessed 2051 values.
  - (k) A map delineating project boundaries.
  - (1) An assessment of the project's ecological value, outdoor recreational value, forest resources, wildlife resources, ownership pattern, utilization, and location.
  - (m) A discussion of whether alternative uses are proposed for the property and what those uses are.
    - (n) A designation of the management agency or agencies.
  - (16) All proposals for projects pursuant to paragraph (3) (b) or subsection (20) shall be implemented only if adopted by the Acquisition and Restoration Council and approved by the board of trustees. The council shall consider and evaluate in writing the merits and demerits of each project that is proposed for Florida Forever funding and each proposed addition to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list program. The council shall ensure that each proposed project will meet a stated public purpose for the restoration, conservation, or preservation of environmentally sensitive lands and water areas or for providing outdoor recreational opportunities and that each proposed addition to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list will meet the public purposes under s. 259.032(3) and, when applicable, s. 259.101(4). The council also shall determine whether the project or addition conforms, where applicable, with the comprehensive plan developed pursuant to s. 259.04(1)(a), the comprehensive multipurpose outdoor recreation plan developed pursuant to s. 375.021, the state lands management plan adopted pursuant to s. 253.03(7), the water resources work plans

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developed pursuant to s. 373.199, and the provisions of this section.

(17)

- (a) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement
  Trust Fund, or, in the case of water management district lands,
  the owning water management district, may authorize the granting
  of a lease, easement, or license for the use of certain lands
  acquired pursuant to this section, for certain uses that are
  determined by the appropriate board to be compatible with the
  resource values of and management objectives for such lands.
- (b) Any existing lease, easement, or license acquired for incidental public or private use on, under, or across any lands acquired pursuant to this section shall be presumed to be compatible with the purposes for which such lands were acquired.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), no such lease, easement, or license shall be entered into by the Department of Environmental Protection or other appropriate state agency if the granting of such lease, easement, or license would adversely affect the exclusion of the interest on any revenue bonds issued to fund the acquisition of the affected lands from gross income for federal income tax purposes, pursuant to Internal Revenue Service regulations.
- (18) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall recommend adoption of rules by the board of trustees necessary to implement the provisions of this section relating to: solicitation, scoring, selecting, and ranking of Florida Forever project proposals; disposing of or leasing lands or water areas selected for funding through the Florida Forever program; and

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the process of reviewing and recommending for approval or rejection the land management plans associated with publicly owned properties. Rules promulgated pursuant to this subsection shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for review by the Legislature, no later than 30 days prior to the 2001 Regular Session and shall become effective only after legislative review. In its review, the Legislature may reject, modify, or take no action relative to such rules. The board of trustees shall conform such rules to changes made by the Legislature, or, if no action was taken by the Legislature, such rules shall become effective.

(19) Lands listed as projects for acquisition under the Florida Forever program may be managed for conservation pursuant to s. 259.032, on an interim basis by a private party in anticipation of a state purchase in accordance with a contractual arrangement between the acquiring agency and the private party that may include management service contracts, leases, cost-share arrangements, or resource conservation agreements. Lands designated as eligible under this subsection shall be managed to maintain or enhance the resources the state is seeking to protect by acquiring the land. Funding for these contractual arrangements may originate from the documentary stamp tax revenue deposited into the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund and Water Management Lands Trust Fund. No more than 5 percent of funds allocated under the trust funds shall be expended for this purpose.

to read:

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- (20) The Acquisition and Restoration Council, as successors to the Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council, may amend existing Conservation and Recreation Lands projects and add to or delete from the 2000 Conservation and Recreation Lands list until funding for the Conservation and Recreation Lands program has been expended. The amendments to the 2000 Conservation and Recreation Lands list will be reported to the board of trustees in conjunction with the council's report developed pursuant to subsection (15).
- (21) The use of rural-lands-protection easements as described in 570.71(3) is encouraged as a way to maintain working lands while furthering the goals of this chapter.

  Section 13. Section 259.1051, Florida Statutes, is amended

259.1051 Florida Forever Trust Fund.--

(1) There is created the Florida Forever Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of ss. 259.032, 259.105, 259.1052, and 375.031. The Florida Forever Trust Fund shall be held and administered by the Department of Environmental Protection. Proceeds from the sale of bonds, except proceeds of refunding bonds, issued under s. 215.618 and payable from moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund under s. 201.15(1)(a), not to exceed \$3 billion, must be deposited into this trust fund to be distributed and used as provided in s. 259.105(3). The bond resolution adopted by the governing board of the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration may provide for additional provisions that govern the disbursement of the bond proceeds.

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- distribute revenues from the Florida Forever Trust Fund only to programs of state agencies or local governments as set out in s. 259.105(3) or as provided in s. 259.1052. Excluding distributions to the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund and distributions for the acquisition of the Babcock Crescent B Ranch Florida Forever acquisition as provided in s. 259.1052, the distributions shall be spent by the recipient within 90 days after the date on which the Department of Environmental Protection initiates the transfer.
- The Department of Environmental Protection shall ensure that the proceeds from the sale of bonds issued under s. 215.618 and payable from moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund under s. 201.15(1)(a) shall be administered and expended in a manner that ensures compliance of each issue of bonds that are issued on the basis that interest thereon will be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, with the applicable provisions of the United States Internal Revenue Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder, to the extent necessary to preserve the exclusion of interest on the bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The Department of Environmental Protection shall administer the use and disbursement of the proceeds of such bonds or require that the use and disbursement thereof be administered in a manner to implement strategies to maximize any available benefits under the applicable provisions of the United States Internal Revenue Code or regulations promulgated

thereunder, to the extent not inconsistent with the purposes identified in s. 259.105(3).

2190 Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

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# COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION & STATE LANDS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2008 5:15 PM – 7:00 PM 216 THE CAPITOL

1<sup>st</sup> ADDENDUM

#### **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS**

BILL #:

**HB 31 SPONSOR(S):** Boyd

Springs Protection

**TIED BILLS:** 

IDEN./SIM. BILLS:

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Committee on Conservation & State Lands		Palmer	<u> Kariler</u>
2) Environment & Natural Resources Council			
3) Policy & Budget Council	West-Samples		******
4)	NAME OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR		
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#### **SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

The bill creates the Florida Springs Stewardship Act and the Florida Springs Stewardship Task Force (task force). The bill defines the task force structure, function and membership and directs the task force, with assistance from all necessary state agencies, to collect and inventory all existing data and to identify zones of influence for each of Florida's first magnitude springs. The task force is also to identify and list best management practices (BMP's) for land uses in the zones of influence and to identify existing and potential sources of funding for implementing these BMP's. The task force is to solicit public input and testimony and propose a program of increased emphasis on education and outreach regarding implementing BMP's. The bill requires a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives specifying the task force's findings. The bill requires the task force be appointed no later than August 1, 2008 and for the task force to expire on January 31, 2009.

The bill does not appear to have a significant fiscal impact on state or local governments.

The bill would become effective on July 1, 2008.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives. h0031.CSL.doc STORAGE NAME:

DATE:

1/8/2008

#### **FULL ANALYSIS**

#### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

<u>Provide Limited Government</u>: The bill creates the *Florida Springs Stewardship Task Force* to evaluate existing data, identify zones of influence, and make recommendations for protection of Florida's springs.

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

#### **Present Situation**

The term spring is generally understood to mean a place on the Earth's surface where underground water emerges onto the surface – including the ground beneath surface water features. Although this is accurate in general, there is some ambiguity in this definition for specific usage since it does not differentiate among the different types of springs. In Florida, most springs are one of two general types, seeps (water-table springs) or karst (artesian) springs. Water-table springs occur when rainwater percolates downward through permeable sediments to a much less permeable or impermeable formation which forces the water to move laterally. Eventually, the water may intersect the surface in a low area and form a seep. Karst springs form when confined groundwater discharges to the surface through an opening or vent in the confining layer. Seeps may also form in karst areas when water discharging through a breach in the confining layer does not reach the surface but diffuses into the unconfined surficial or water-table aquifer.

Independent of their type, springs are most often classified based upon their median flow. Median flow is used since spring flow is a dynamic process with individual springs exhibiting variable discharge depending upon rainfall, recharge and groundwater withdrawals within their recharge areas. However, one discharge measurement is enough to place a spring into one of eight flow ranges or magnitude categories. This can result in a spring being initially observed as a certain magnitude spring and later as another magnitude spring. Historically, a spring assigned a magnitude when it was first described continued with that magnitude designation even though the discharge may have changed considerably over time. If a spring had been previously classified as a higher magnitude spring than the magnitude class it would have been assigned in the 2003 Florida Springs Classification System, it retains the higher classification but with the leading descriptor "historical".

There are more than 700 identified springs in Florida. Of particular interest to this bill are the largest discharge springs, classified as first-magnitude springs, which have a flow greater than or equal to 100 cubic feet per second (64.6 million gallons per day). Thirty-three first-magnitude springs have been identified in Florida.

The majority of Florida's springs and all of the first-magnitude springs are karst springs. These karst springs originate in the Floridian aquifer. The Floridian is one of the most prolific aquifers in the world and extends throughout an area that includes all of the Florida Peninsula, and parts of the Florida Panhandle, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina, as well as parts of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean. The surface of this area is underlain by permeable, unconsolidated deposits of clay, sand, gravel and shell beds. Beneath these permeable surface materials are layers of semi-consolidated and consolidated carbonate rock (limestone and dolostone). Beneath the surface layer a low permeability layer of clastic limestone, known as the Hawthorn Formation, overlays and confines the thick, more permeable layer of limestone which contains the Floridian Aquifer. The Floridian is confined below by a layer of low permeability anhydrate beds referred to as the Cedar Keys Formation. Within the Floridian Aquifer is a discontinuous, low permeability layer that, in places, divides the Floridian into the sub-

layers known as the Upper Floridian and the Lower Floridian. The Upper Floridian contains high quality fresh water while the Lower Floridian may contain more saline water. The Floridian is not flat but tilts and has a variable thickness. In certain places the Floridian formation reaches the surface and precipitation and run-off can be in direct contact with the aquifer. In other places the Hawthorn Formation is thin and may be fractured or breached by sinkholes. In all of these places, the Floridian may either discharge as a spring, diffuse into the surficial aquifer, or be recharged from the water-table aquifer depending on the elevation of the land surface, elevation of the Floridian's potentiometric surface, and the elevation of the water-table surface. The potentiometric surface is the elevation to which the water in a confined aquifer would rise if it were unconfined.

Recent studies of Florida's springs have concluded that many have begun to exhibit signs of distress, including increasing nutrient loading and lowered discharge. This distress is attributed to changes occurring in the spring's discharge basin. A discharge basin is that area within the groundwater basin or surface water basin that contributes to the discharge of the spring. The boundaries of a discharge are very dynamic and vary as a result of changes in the potentiometric surface of the Floridian aquifer relative to changes in the elevation of the water-table. Thus, discharge basins are composed of three different zones of influence: the surface basin which contributes direct runoff; the water-table flow basin which may be into or out-of the spring flow; and the Floridian discharge source basin. It is very difficult to identify the specific boundaries of these zones since the three basins typically do not cover the same regions. The surface runoff basin can be defined with reasonable precision and remains fairly constant unless artificially modified. However, the flow and water quality in the other two basins vary depending on recharge situations and are likely affected by conditions and events that may be remote from the spring and occur in different places for each basin.

In 1999, in response to the perceived decline in spring water flows and quality, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) convened the *Florida Springs Task Force* to assess the condition of Florida's springs. The findings of the task force then led the Florida Legislature to authorize the *Florida Springs Initiative* in 2001 with a funding appropriation of 2.5 million dollars. This program was designed to investigate the sources of spring-flow, determine, to the extent possible, the zones that most affect the water quantity and quality of spring discharge, monitor spring water quality, assist landowners in implementing spring protection actions, and promote the value of springs through extensive public education. DEP reports that maps delineating zones of influence have been generated for many of the state's first magnitude springs.

#### Effect of Proposed Change

The bill amends chapter 369, F.S., creating the *Florida Springs Stewardship Act* relating to protection of Florida's springs, establishes the *Florida Springs Stewardship Task Force* (task force), and specifies the Task Force's duties.

By way of this bill, the Legislature recognizes that Florida's springs are valuable resources that provide recreational and tourism opportunities and are a great financial benefit to local economies and that Florida's springs provide critical habitat for endangered or threatened species of plants and animals. Furthermore, the flow and water quality of Florida's springs are direct reflections of the aquifer systems in Florida and consequently are indicators of the condition of a significant portion of the state's water resources. The Legislature states its belief that cooperative efforts can best develop the mechanisms to identify best management practices for the protection, restoration, and preservation of Florida's water resources, including springs, that the citizens of Florida desire to be good stewards of the state's resources, and that through educational awareness programs the state's citizens will voluntarily implement best management practices into their daily activities.

The Florida Springs Stewardship Task Force is to be appointed no later than August 1, 2008. The bill establishes a nine member task force with a chair and a vice-chair to be elected by the task force from among its membership. The task force membership shall be:

- one representative from the DEP, to be appointed by the Secretary of the DEP;
- one representative from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Protection, to be appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture;
- one representative from the Department of Community Affairs, to be appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs;
- one representative from the water management district with the greatest number of first magnitude springs within its jurisdiction, to be appointed by the executive director of that water management district;
- one representative from the development community, to be appointed by the President of the Senate;
- one representative from a local chamber of commerce, to be appointed by the President of the Senate:
- one representative who is a locally elected county or municipal official, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- one representative from the environmental community, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and
- one member from the agricultural community, to be appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture;

The task force is to collect and inventory all existing data and to identify zones of influence for each of Florida's thirty-three known first magnitude springs. They are to identify land uses in these zones and to identify and compile a list of existing best management practices (BMP's) and other water pollutant controls for the identified land uses. The task force is also directed to identify any and all existing and reasonably expected funding sources available to implement BMP's and other water pollutant controls that would protect Florida's first magnitude springs and propose a priority list of projects for the funding.

The task force is to conduct public meetings for the purpose of taking public input and testimony regarding issues related to springs protection, restoration, and preservation. The task force is directed to then propose a program of increased emphasis on education and outreach that encourages the implementation of BMP's and other water pollutant controls for agricultural and nonagricultural land uses, including specific provisions for cost-share assistance with the implementation BMP's. The task force is to propose a means for recognition of agricultural and nonagricultural landowners who participate in the BMP's program.

The task force is to prepare a report summarizing the data collected, public input and testimony, and its findings and proposals. This report is to be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than January 31, 2009.

All state agencies are directed, and all other agencies and local governments are requested, to render assistance to and to cooperate with the task force.

The bill provides for the task force to expire January 31, 2009.

The bill would become effective on July 1, 2008.

#### C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Creates Part IV of ch. 369, F.S., consisting of: s. 369.401, creating a short title; s 369.402, establishing Legislative intent and findings; s 369.403, establishing definitions; and s. 369.404, creating the Florida Springs Stewardship Task Force and specifying duties of the task force.

Section 2: Creates an effective date.

## II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A.	FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:
	1. Revenues: None.
	2. Expenditures: None.
В.	FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:
	1. Revenues: None.
	2. Expenditures: None.
C.	DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR: None.
D.	FISCAL COMMENTS: None.
	III. COMMENTS
A.	CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:
	1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:
	Not applicable because this bill does not appear to require cities or counties to spend funds or take actions requiring the expenditure of funds, nor does it appear to reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate, nor does it appear to reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties
	2. Other:
	None.
В.	RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

STORAGE NAME:

DATE:

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No rulemaking authority is granted to implement the provisions of this bill.

- C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS: None.
- D. STATEMENT OF THE SPONSORNo statement submitted.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to springs protection; creating part IV of
3	ch. 369, F.S., entitled "Springs Protection"; providing a
4	short title; providing legislative findings and intent;
5	providing definitions; establishing the Florida Springs
6	Stewardship Task Force; providing for task force
7	membership and duties; requiring a report to the Governor
8	and Legislature; providing for assistance and cooperation
9	from state agencies and local governments; providing for
10	expiration of the task force; providing an effective date.
11	
12	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
13	
14	Section 1. Part IV of chapter 369, Florida Statutes,
15	consisting of sections 369.401, 369.402, 369.403, and 369.404,
16	is created to read:
17	Part IV
18	SPRINGS PROTECTION
19	369.401 Short titleThis part may be cited as the
20	"Florida Springs Stewardship Act."
21	369.402 Legislative findings and intentThe Legislature
22	finds that:
23	(1) Florida's springs are valuable resources that provide
24	recreational and tourism opportunities and are a great financial
25	benefit to local economies and that Florida's springs provide
26	critical habitat for endangered or threatened species of plants
27	and animals.
28	(2) The flow and water quality of Florida's springs are

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direct reflections of the aquifer systems in Florida and consequently are indicators of the condition of a significant portion of the state's water resources.

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- (3) Cooperative efforts can best develop the mechanisms to identify best management practices for the protection, restoration, and preservation of Florida's water resources, including springs.
- (4) The citizens of Florida desire to be good stewards of the state's resources and that through educational awareness programs will voluntarily implement best management practices into their daily activities.
  - 369.403 Definitions.--For purposes of this part, the term:
- (1) "Seep" means a place where the water table aquifer intersects the land surface and flows onto the land.
- (2) "Spring" means a point where groundwater is discharged onto the earth's surface, including under any surface water of the state, and excluding seeps.
- (3) "Zone of influence" means the geographic area that contributes most directly to the water quantity and quality of a spring.
  - 369.404 Florida Springs Stewardship Task Force. --
- (1) The Florida Springs Stewardship Task Force is hereby created and shall consist of nine members as follows:
- (a) One representative from the Department of

  Environmental Protection to be appointed by the Secretary of
  Environmental Protection.
- (b) One representative from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to be appointed by the Commissioner of

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57 Agriculture.

- (c) One representative from the Department of Community Affairs to be appointed by the Secretary of Community Affairs.
- (d) One representative from the water management district with the greatest number of first magnitude springs within its jurisdiction to be appointed by the executive director of that water management district.
- (e) Two members appointed by the President of the Senate, one of whom shall be a representative of the development community and one of whom shall be a representative of a local chamber of commerce.
- (f) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a locally elected county or municipal official and one of whom shall be a representative of the environmental community.
- (g) One member appointed by the Commissioner of

  Agriculture who shall be a representative of the agricultural community.
- (2) Task force members shall be appointed no later than

  August 1, 2008. Members shall choose a chair and vice chair from
  the membership of the task force.
  - (3) The task force shall:
- (a) Collect and inventory all existing data identifying zones of influence for each of Florida's 33 known first magnitude springs and identifying land uses in these areas.
- (b) Identify and compile a list of existing best management practices for identified land uses and other water pollutant controls.

(c) Identify any and all existing and reasonably expected funding sources available to implement best management practices and other water pollutant controls that protect Florida's first magnitude springs and propose a priority list of projects for the funding.

- (d) Take public input and testimony regarding issues related to spring protection, restoration, and preservation.
- (e) Propose a program of increased emphasis on education and outreach that encourages the implementation of best management practices for agricultural and nonagricultural land uses and other water pollutant controls, including specific provisions for cost-share assistance with the implementation of best management practices as well as recognition of agricultural and nonagricultural landowners who participate in the best management practices program.
- (4) The task force shall submit a report summarizing the data collected, public input and testimony, and the findings and proposals of the task force to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than January 31, 2009.
- (5) All state agencies are directed, and all other agencies and local governments are requested, to render assistance to and cooperate with the task force.
- (6) The task force shall expire on January 31, 2009. Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.



# COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION & STATE LANDS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2008 5:15 PM – 7:00 PM 216 THE CAPITOL

# 2nd ADDENDUM

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #:

**PCB ENRC 08-09** 

Florida Forever Successor

TIED BILLS:

**SPONSOR(S):** Committee on Conservation & State Lands

IDEN./SIM. BILLS:

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
Orig. Comm.: Environment and Natural Resources Council	MANAGE AND		
Committee on Conservation & State Lands		Palmer	Zeiler
3)			
4)         5)			

#### **SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

The bill extends the current Florida Forever program by extending the retirement date for all Florida Forever bonds from December 31, 2030 to December 31, 2033 and raises the limit on the issuance of the bonds from \$3 billion to \$3.2 billion. The bill requires the legislature to analyze the state's debt ratio in relation to projected revenues prior to the authorization of any bonds for land acquisition and directs the legislature to complete an analysis of potential revenue sources for the Florida Forever program by February 1, 2010.

The bill transfers the Florida Communities Trust from the Department of Community Affairs to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). It also requests the Division of Statutory Revision of the Joint Legislative Management Committee to prepare a reviser's bill to conform Florida Statutes to the organizational changes made by this bill.

The bill designates the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) as the state's primary land managers for state lands title to which is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (board).

The duties of the primary land managers are expanded to include concurrently developing the land management plans (LMP), implementing the LMP's and monitoring the results of the land management activities. The bill expands land management plan reporting requirements and requires objective performance measures of management to be developed, measured and reported..

The Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, the Executive Director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Commissioner of Agriculture are to prepare and deliver a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than December 31, 2008 that provides a formula to allocate funds provided for long-term management of all state lands. The formula and the methodology used to develop it are to be approved by the legislature.

The bill authorizes an additional \$200 million dollars to be issued in Florida Forever bonds and extends the retirement date of these bonds to December 31, 2033. The debt service is estimated to be \$20 million per year for this funding increase. The FCT program with all funding sources will be transferred from the DCA to the DEP.

The bill's effective date is July 1, 2008.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives. STORAGE NAME:

DATE:

#### **FULL ANALYSIS**

# I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

<u>Provide Limited Government</u>: The bill standardizes land management activities and provides for more detailed accountability reporting by land managers.

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

#### Present Situation

Land acquisition for conservation has long been recognized as critical for the protection of water and ecological resources. Since 1963 the state has implemented a series of statutory land acquisition programs by which the State of Florida has invested more than \$6 billion to obtain control over approximately 3.5 million acres of land for conservation, recreation, preservation, and restoration. The water management districts have acquired additional lands in excess of 2 million acres for water supply, and water resource protection and conservation.

The health of Florida's ecosystems depends on dynamic natural processes associated with fire, hydrology, and a delicate ecological balance among native species. The state's resource management goal is to conserve, restore and preserve the natural landscapes of Florida by protecting and, where needed, reestablishing natural processes. The managing agencies are directed to establish and implement management plans to accomplish these goals. The Legislature has further directed that all state and public lands are to be available for public access and recreation whenever such public use would not be contrary to the purpose for which the land was acquired or whenever public access would create an unsafe situation.

Public use is allowed on almost all conservation lands, with most of the exceptions being associated with structures supporting either flood control or water supply, lands leased for activities such as agriculture, or during times of infrastructure construction. Although most conservation lands are open to public use, there is often a perception that this is not the case. The perception of areas not being open for public use may be based on difficulty in finding access points, lack of basic facilities, or to areas being closed to some uses but not to others. Uses, such as hunting, may be restricted by seasonality or they may be limited due to incompatibility with management goals or other ongoing public uses.

The Florida Forever Program was created by the Legislature in 1999, as a successor program to the successful Preservation 2000 program. Florida Forever authorizes the issuance of not more than \$3 billion in bonds for land acquisition, water resource development projects, the preservation and restoration of open space and greenways, and for outdoor recreation purposes. The program continues to provide public land acquisition agencies with the authority to purchase eligible properties and authorizes alternatives to fee simple acquisitions. The Florida Forever Program sunsets in 2010.

Under the Florida Forever program, lands are purchased by:

- the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Division of State Lands (DSL) and are managed by:
  - DEP
    - Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP);
    - Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT); and
    - Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (CAMA);
  - Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC);
  - Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' (DACS) Division of Forestry (DOF);

- Department of State's (DOS) Division of Historical Resources (DHR)
- > water management districts -
  - South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD);
  - Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD);
  - St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD);
  - Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD); and
  - Northwest Florida Water Management District (NWFWMD);
- > Department of Community Affairs' (DCA) Florida Community Trust Program (FCT) grants to;
  - · county or city government; and
  - non-profit organizations.

Lands acquired by the DSL are titled in the name of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (board). Lands purchased by one of the five water management districts are titled in the name of the district making the acquisition. Lands purchased under the FCT, in partnership with a county or city, vest in the name of the acquiring local government. Lands purchased by a nonprofit organization using grant funds provided by the FCT must remain permanently in public use. Should a non-profit organization cease to manage lands purchased with an FCT grant, the title to those lands reverts to local or state government, a conservation easement, or another appropriate mechanism.

Applications for land acquisition submitted to the Division of State Lands are reviewed by DSL staff who make recommendations to the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC). The ARC is responsible for evaluating, selecting and ranking state land acquisition projects for submission to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Each acquisition of state lands has a land management plan that is periodically reviewed by a management review team who reviews the extent to which the land management plan protects threatened and endangered species, unique or important physical features, geological or hydrological functions, and archeological or historical features. The review also examines the extent to which actual land management activity has supported purpose for purchase, how well the actual management practices, including public access, comply with land management plan.

Oversight of the DSL land acquisitions is performed by the Land Management Uniform Accounting Council (LMUAC). Each year LMUAC submits a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives that includes land management costs which are assigned specific categories (no cost is to be assigned to more than one category). Each agency managing land titled to the board reports their expenditures.

Since its inception in July 2001 through March 2007, the state's Florida Forever land acquisition program has preserved (Note: These acreages often overlap, and thus should not be added together):

- 235,960 acres of Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas;
- 382,930 acres of rare species habitat conservation areas;
- 523,680 acres of ecological greenways:
- 51,270 acres of under-represented natural communities;
- 57,620 acres of natural floodplains;
- 541,220 acres important to significant water bodies:
- 5,080 acres of fragile coastline;
- 240.180 acres of functional wetlands:
- 524,833 acres of significant groundwater recharge areas;
- 87,860 acres of land to support priority recreational trails;
- 265,340 acres of sustainable forest land; and
- 2,720 acres of archaeological and historic sites.

To support the Sunset Review Process and to gather information for a successor to the Florida forever program, the Committee on Conservation & State Lands (C&SL) working with the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) reviewed the state's land acquisition and management process as it is currently being implemented. The C&SL prepared an interim report<sup>1</sup> that recommended to the legislature nine policy options:

- 1. Revise current Florida Forever goals and assign numeric weights to goals to assist the ARC and DSL in prioritizing land acquisition projects.
- 2. Require a more complete land management prospectus during the evaluation cycle of Florida Forever applications.
- 3. Expand the role of the Land Management Uniform Accounting Council Report to better capture and report land management activities.
- 4. Revise the land management plans to include cost estimate and time lines that identify anticipated results with measurable performance criteria, identify specific impediments to land management goals and incorporate cross-agency coordination and resource sharing.
- 5. Revise the current methodology utilized to allocate long term management funds and codify the long-term land management funds allocation formula.
- 6. Raise the priority of public access and create a measurement for public access.
- 7. Incorporate all state conservation lands into single management funding and reporting process.
- 8. Establish a single web-site identifying all state lands available for public recreational use.
- 9. Increase and enhance highway signage and access point identification.

# OPPAGA offered four policy option recommendations<sup>2</sup>:

- 1. Maintain the current system of land management by three separate agencies.
- 2. Create a council to coordinate and oversee land management activities.
- 3. Centralize land management under one state agency.
- 4. Centralize all land management activities under a new entity.

# Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill extends the current Florida Forever program by extending the retirement date for all Florida Forever bonds from December 31, 2030 to December 31, 2033 and raises the limit on the issuance of the bonds from \$3 billion to \$3.2 billion. The bill requires the legislature to analyze the state's debt ratio in relation to projected revenues prior to the authorization of any bonds for land acquisition and directs the legislature to complete an analysis of potential revenue sources for the Florida Forever program by February 1, 2010.

The bill transfers the Florida Communities Trust, as authorized by ss. 380.501 through 380.515, F.S., from the Department of Community Affairs to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). It also requests the Division of Statutory Revision of the Joint Legislative Management Committee to prepare a reviser's bill to conform Florida Statutes to the organizational changes made by this bill.

The bill amends s. 253.002, F.S., providing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) are the state's primary land managers for state lands title to which is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (board). The duties of the primary land managers is expanded to include concurrently developing the land management plans (LMP) required pursuant to s. 253.034(5), F.S., implementing the LMP's and monitoring the results of the land management activities.

Section 253.0325, F.S., is amended to require the DEP to initiate and maintain an information system that will be the basis land acquisition and land management decision making and modeling. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Committee on Conservation & State Lands, 2008. <u>State Lands Acquisition and Management</u>. Florida House of Representatives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, 2007. *Conservation Land Management Options for Legislative Consideration*. <u>Sunset Memorandum</u>.

information system is to map, in an electronic format, the natural communities on each tract of state land and each proposed land acquisition. Natural community is defined as a distinct and recurring assemblage of populations of plants, animals, fungi and microorganisms naturally associated with each other and their physical environment. Each natural community will be partitioned into natural community categories, each natural community category will be partitioned into natural community groups and each natural community group will be partitioned into natural community types. DACS and FWC will assist in the development and standardization of the information system. The DEP may utilize a third party for the development of the information system and its data. However, the information system and its data are to be the property of the state.

State lands are to be managed to ensure the conservation of the state's plant and animal species and to assure the accessibility of public lands for the benefit and enjoyment all people of the state, both present and future. DACS and FWC are to prepare LMP's for state lands -- each LMP is to provide a desired outcome with measurable objectives to obtain the desired outcome. The desired outcomes include sustainability, improving habitat and increasing public access and will be the basis for all subsequent land management activity decisions.

To ensure the desired outcome is achieved, state lands are to be managed to achieve the following objectives:

- habitat restoration and improvement;
- public access and recreation;
- hydrological preservation and restoration;
- forest management;
- exotic and invasive species control; and
- financial sustainability of land management activities.

The LMP is to include the following elements:

- a physical description of the property;
- a quantitative data description of the property to include a survey of forest resources, exotic and invasive plants, hydrological features, capital facilities including recreational facilities -- the description shall be of such detail that objective measures and benchmarks can be established for each tract of land and monitored during the lifetime of the plan, all quantitative data collected are to be aggregated, standardized, collected and presented in an electronic format to allow for management reporting and analysis, and the information collected by the DEP pursuant to s. 253.0325(2), F.S., is to be available to the land manager and their assignee;
- a detailed description of each land management objective and the activities that are to be
  performed to meet the land management objectives-- each land management objective must be
  addressed by the land management plan but no land management objective shall be performed
  to the detriment of the other land management objectives;
- an activity matrix shall be prepared that contains a timeline, quantitative measures, detailed expense and manpower budgets for each activity; and
- a summary budget for the land management activities of the LMP which is to be prepared in such a manner that it facilitates an aggregation of land management costs for all state lands.

Upon completion, the LMP is to be transmitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review. After a 30 day review and comment period, the LMP will become operational. If issues arise during the review and comment period that require revisions to the LMP, the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, Commissioner of Agriculture, the Fish and Wildlife Commission or their designees are to develop a consensus for LMP changes and redraft the plan. During the redrafting period, no funds for the management of the land may be expended other than those needed to address emergency situations.

Annually, the state lands with an approved land management plan must be monitored by the FWC and reviewed by a certified third party. The FWC will prepare a monitoring report that accounts for the

STORAGE NAME:

progress of land management activities and specifically identifies deficiencies in the management activities. The monitoring report is to be submitted to DACS and the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC). The third party review and analysis of the management plan shall identify the progress of the management activities. The third party review and analysis is to provide suggested corrective actions needed to be taken by the land manager to address identified deficiencies. The third party review and analysis are to be submitted to DACS, FWC, and ARC. ARC is to review the monitoring report and the third party review and analysis and determine which deficiencies are of a significant enough to require a corrective action plan or revision to the LMP. Any corrective actions or revisions are to be brought in front of board who will determine whether the corrective actions or revisions sufficiently address the identified deficiencies. Corrective actions plans are then to be prepared and submitted in the same manner as the LMP.

During the development of the LMP, at least two public hearings are to be held. The LMP's are to be reviewed on rotating basis on a 10 year cycle.

Lands owned by the board which are not actively managed by any state agency or for which a land management plan has not been completed are to be reviewed by the ARC for its recommendation as to whether such lands should be managed by a private contractor, leased or disposed of by the board.

The bill repeals s. 253.034(6)(f)2.

The bill amends s. 259.032, F.S., providing that the board may allocate moneys from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund in any one year to acquire land through less-than-fee acquisitions to preserve agricultural lands under threat of conversion to development. The bill also requires that the costs of infrastructure and management identified in the management prospectus, adopted by the board pursuant to s. 259.032(9)(d), will be standardized and aggregated in a manner sufficient to allow reporting to board of trustee and the legislature. The bill allows the land managers to contract with private persons to assist in management activities.

The bill requires individual LMP's to conform to the requirements of s. 253.034(5), F.S., and include appropriate policies and guidelines of the LMP are to include key management activities necessary to achieve the desired outcome, including but not limited, providing public access, preserving and protecting natural resources and restoring habitat, controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals, performing prescribed fire activities and other appropriate resource management activities.

The Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, the Executive Director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Commissioner of Agriculture are to prepare and deliver a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than December 31, 2008 that provides the methodology used to develop and a recommendation for a formula to allocate land management funds provided for long-term management of all state lands. The methodology and formula shall recognize, but not be limited to, the following:

- the assignment of management intensity associated with the natural community categories, groups and types provided in 253.0325(2) and the related management activities to land management goals provided in 253.034(5);
- the assignment of management intensity associated with public access, including but not limited to.
  - the acres of land which require minimal effort for resource preservation, development, or restoration — these lands generally are open to the public but offer no more than minimally developed facilities,
  - the acres of land which require moderate effort for resource preservation, development, or restoration — these lands typically have a high degree of public use and offer highly developed facilities, and
  - the acres of land which require significant effort for resource preservation, development, or restoration — these lands generally are sites with historic significance or unique natural features, and a very high degree of public use;

- the acres of land with a secondary manager contributing to the over-all management effort;
- the anticipated revenues generated from management of the lands;
- the impacts of, and needs created or addressed by, multiple-use management strategies; and
- the acres of land with infestations of non-native or invasive plants, animals, or fish.

Beginning July 1, 2009, no funds shall be allocated, distributed or expended for long-term management of state lands until the allocation formula for funding land management activities has be affirmed by the legislature. Upon affirmation, the allocation formula will be used in the allocation and distribution of funds.

The bill amends ss. 259.035, and 259.036, F.S., providing for membership of the Acquisition and Restoration Council and management review teams.

The bill amends s. 259.037, F.S., providing for each land manager's annual report to the Land Management Uniform Accounting Council to include, in addition to currently required data:

- a report of the available public use options for each tract of state land and the total management cost for public access and public use and the cost associated with each use option;
- a list of the acres of land requiring minimal management effort, moderate management effort, and significant management effort, and for each category the amount of funds requested, the amount of funds received, and the amount of funds expended for land management;
- a description of planned management activities and accomplished land management activities;
- a list of acres managed and the cost of management for each tract by natural community delineation, based on the Florida Natural Areas Inventory's 1990 hierarchical classification, including the natural community category, the natural community group, and the natural community type; and
- a list of acres managed, the cost of management, and the lead manager for state lands tracts for which secondary management activities were provided.

Section. 259.105, F.S., is amended to provide encouragement for use of rural-lands-protection easements to provide protection of working-lands while maintaining state lands goals and objectives.

# C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

- Section 1. Amends s. 201.15, F.S., providing a retirement date for Florida Forever bonds.
- Section 2. Amends s. 215.618, F.S., providing a cap for issuance of Florida Forever bonds and providing Legislature will analyze debt to revenue ratio.
- Section 3. Providing for the transfer of the Florida Communities Trust to the Department of Environmental Protection.
- Section 4. Providing a request for a reviser's bill to conform statutory changes.
- Section 5. Amends s. 253.002, F.S., providing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services are the state's primary land managers, and specifying certain duties of land managers.
- Section 6. Amends s. 253.0325, F.S., providing the Department of Environmental protection shall initiate and maintain a specified information system.
- Section 7. Amends s. 253.034, F.S., providing state lands management objectives. Repeals s. 253.034(6)(f)2.
- Section 8. Amends s. 259.032, F.S., providing policies for management activities and management funds allocation.
- Section 9. Amends s. 259.035, F.S., providing for membership of Acquisition and Restoration Council.
- Section 10. Amends s. 259.036, F.S., providing for membership of management review teams.
- Section 11. Amends s. 259.037, F.S., providing for Land Management Uniform Accounting Council report contents.
- Section 12. Amends s. 229.105, F.S., providing for use of rural-lands-protection easements.
- Section 13. Amends s. 259.1051, F.S., providing a cap for issuance of Florida Forever bonds.

## II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

Α.	FISCAL	IMPACT	ON	STATE	GO\	VERNMENT:
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1. Revenues:

See Fiscal Comments.

2. Expenditures:

See Fiscal Comments.

# **B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:**

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

## D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The bill authorizes an additional \$200 million dollars to be issued in Florida Forever bonds and extends the retirement date of these bonds to December 31, 2033. The debt service is estimated to be \$20 million per year for this funding increase. The FCT program with all funding sources will be transferred from the DCA to the DEP.

## III. COMMENTS

## A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable because this bill does not appear to require cities or counties to spend funds or take actions requiring the expenditure of funds, nor does it appear to reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate, nor does it appear to reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

None.

## **B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

No new rulemaking authority is granted to implement the provisions of this bill.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

# D. STATEMENT OF THE SPONSOR

# IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL SUBSTITUTE CHANGES



# COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION & STATE LANDS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2008 5:15 PM - 7:00 PM 216 THE CAPITOL

3<sup>rd</sup> ADDENDUM

**AMENDMENTS** 

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1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to state lands; amending s. 201.15 F.S.; 3 providing a retirement date for Florida Forever bonds; 4 amending s. 215.618, F.S.; providing a maximum dollar 5 amount for issuance of Florida Forever bonds; providing the 6 legislature shall analyze debt to projected revenue ratio; 7 providing the legislature shall analyze potential revenue 8 sources for the Florida Forever program; amending s. 9 253.002, F.S.; providing the and the Department of 10 Agriculture and Consumer Services are designated the 11 state's primary land managers; providing certain duties; 12 amending s. 253.025, F.S.; providing the Board of Trustees 1.3 of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to replace the Division of state lands for certain responsibilities; 14 providing for selection of property appraisers; providing 15 for joint purchase appraisals; amending s. 253.0325, F.S.; 16 17 providing for modernization of state lands records; 18 amending s. 253.034, F.S.; providing for management of 19 conservation lands; providing minimum requirements for land management plans; providing for review of land management 20 21 plans; providing remedy for deficient land management plans; providing for appraisals of surplus lands; repealing 22 23 s. 253.034(6)(f)2.; amending s. 253.111, F.S.; providing 24 notice period; amending s. 253.82, F.S.; amending s. 25 259.032, F.S.; providing for protection of agricultural 26 lands through less-than-fee acquisitions; providing 27 conditions for less-than-fee acquisitions; providing for 28 lands with imperiled species habitat; providing for

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restoration management; providing for cost reporting; providing for public hearings; providing for key land management activities; providing requirements for development of long-term management funds allocation formula; providing for report to legislature; providing for legislative approval of long-term management funds allocation formula; providing for use of long-term management funds allocation formula; amending s. 259.035, F.S.; providing for appointment of Acquisition and Restoration Council membership; amending s. 259.036, F.S.; providing for appointment of management review team membership; amending s. 259.037, F.S.; providing Land Management Uniform Accounting Council reporting requirements; amending s. 259.036, F.S.; providing state's contribution in joint acquisitions; providing for Legislative Budget Commission approval when single purchase exceeds \$100; providing for appraisals and funds transfers; providing option to purchase lands from non-profit organization shall be approved by the legislature; amending s. 259.105, F.S.; providing additional habitats and land uses in Florida Forever program; provides legislative intent; provides for partnerships for environmental mitigation and conservation; provides for alternative revenue sources; provides for state technical assistance to the military for imperiled species habitat restoration and management; provides for allocation of Florida forever funds; provides for state lands acquisition and restoration listing by science based assessments; provides for

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performance measures for imperiled species habitat; provides for conveyance of title under certain conditions; provides for an Acquisition and Restoration Council annual work plan; provides criteria for the work plan; provides for increased priority for projects with matching funds; provides for interim budget criteria; provides for use of rural-lands-protection easements; transferring the Florida Community Trust from the Department of Community Affairs to the Department of Environmental Protection; requesting the Division of Statutory Revision of the Joint Legislative Management Committee to prepare a reviser's bill to conform the Florida Statutes to the organizational changes made by this act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 201.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

201.15 Distribution of taxes collected.—All taxes collected under this chapter shall be distributed as follows and shall be subject to the service charge imposed in s. 215.20(1), except that such service charge shall not be levied against any portion of taxes pledged to debt service on bonds to the extent that the amount of the service charge is required to pay any amounts relating to the bonds:

(1) Sixty-two and sixty-three hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be used for

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the following purposes:

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Amounts as shall be necessary to pay the debt service on, or fund debt service reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts payable with respect to Preservation 2000 bonds issued pursuant to s. 375.051 and Florida Forever bonds issued pursuant to s. 215.618, shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to be used for such purposes. The amount transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund shall not exceed \$300 million in fiscal year 1999-2000 and thereafter for Preservation 2000 bonds and bonds issued to refund Preservation 2000 bonds, and \$300 million in fiscal year 2000-2001 and thereafter for Florida Forever bonds. The annual amount transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund for Florida Forever bonds shall not exceed \$30 million in the first fiscal year in which bonds are issued. The limitation on the amount transferred shall be increased by an additional \$30 million in each subsequent fiscal year, but shall not exceed a total of \$300 million in any fiscal year for all bonds issued. It is the intent of the Legislature that all bonds issued to fund the Florida Forever Act be retired by December 31, 2042 2030. Except for bonds issued to refund previously issued bonds, no series of bonds may be issued pursuant to this paragraph unless such bonds are approved and the debt service for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the bonds are issued is specifically appropriated in the General Appropriations Act. For purposes of refunding Preservation 2000 bonds, amounts designated within this section for Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever bonds may be transferred between the two programs to the

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extent provided for in the documents authorizing the issuance of the bonds. The Preservation 2000 bonds and Florida Forever bonds shall be equally and ratably secured by moneys distributable to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this section, except to the extent specifically provided otherwise by the documents authorizing the issuance of the bonds. No moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this paragraph, or earnings thereon, shall be used or made available to pay debt service on the Save Our Coast revenue bonds.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 215.618, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.618 Bonds for acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests and resources.--

(1) (a) The issuance of Florida Forever bonds, not to exceed  $\frac{56}{93}$  billion, to finance or refinance the cost of acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests and resources, in urban and rural settings, for the purposes of restoration, conservation, recreation, water resource development, or historical preservation, and for capital improvements to lands and water areas that accomplish environmental restoration, enhance public access and recreational enjoyment, promote long-term management goals, and facilitate water resource development is hereby authorized, subject to the provisions of s. 259.105 and pursuant to s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State Constitution. Florida Forever bonds may also be issued to refund Preservation 2000 bonds issued pursuant to s. 375.051. The  $\frac{56}{90}$  billion limitation on the issuance of Florida Forever bonds does not apply to refunding

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- bonds. The duration of each series of Florida Forever bonds issued may not exceed 20 annual maturities. Preservation 2000 bonds and Florida Forever bonds shall be equally and ratably secured by moneys distributable to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15(1)(a), except to the extent specifically provided otherwise by the documents authorizing the issuance of the bonds.
- (b) Beginning July 1, 2010, the Legislature shall analyze the state's debt ratio in relation to projected revenues prior to the authorization to issue any bonds for Florida Forever land acquisition.
- (c) By February 1, 2010, the Legislature shall complete an analysis of potential revenue sources for Florida Forever.
- Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 253.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 253.002 Department of Environmental Protection, water management districts, <u>,</u> and Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; duties with respect to state lands.--
- (1) The Department of Environmental Protection shall perform all staff duties and functions related to the acquisition, administration, and disposition of state lands, title to which is or will be vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service are designated the state's primary land managers. The duties and responsibility of the state's primary land managers include, but are not limited to, concurrently developing the land management plans required pursuant to s. 253.034(5), and implementing the approved land

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169 management plans. However, upon the effective date of rules 170 adopted pursuant to s. 373.427, a water management district 171 created under s. 373.069 shall perform the staff duties and 172 functions related to the review of any application for 173 authorization to use board of trustees-owned submerged lands 174 necessary for an activity regulated under part IV of chapter 373 for which the water management district has permitting 175 176 responsibility as set forth in an operating agreement adopted pursuant to s. 373.046(4); and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall perform the staff duties and functions 179 related to the review of applications and compliance with conditions for use of board of trustees-owned submerged lands under authorizations or leases issued pursuant to ss. 253.67-182 253.75 and 597.010. Unless expressly prohibited by law, the 183 board of trustees may delegate to the department any statutory 184 duty or obligation relating to the acquisition, administration, 185 or disposition of lands, title to which is or will be vested in 186 the board of trustees. The board of trustees may also delegate 187 to any water management district created under s. 373.069 the 188 authority to take final agency action, without any action on 189 behalf of the board, on applications for authorization to use 190 board of trustees-owned submerged lands for any activity regulated under part IV of chapter 373 for which the water 192 management district has permitting responsibility as set forth 193 in an operating agreement adopted pursuant to s. 373.046(4). 194 This water management district responsibility under this 195 subsection shall be subject to the department's general 196 supervisory authority pursuant to s. 373.026(7). The board of

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trustees may also delegate to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services the authority to take final agency action on behalf of the board on applications to use board of trustees—owned submerged lands for any activity for which that department has responsibility pursuant to ss. 253.67-253.75 and 597.010. However, the board of trustees shall retain the authority to take final agency action on establishing any areas for leasing, new leases, expanding existing lease areas, or changing the type of lease activity in existing leases. Upon issuance of an aquaculture lease or other real property transaction relating to aquaculture, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services must send a copy of the document and the accompanying survey to the Department of Environmental Protection.

- Section 4. Paragraphs (b), (e), and (f) of subsection (6) of section 253.025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 253.025 Acquisition of state lands for purposes other than preservation, conservation, and recreation.--
- (6) Prior to negotiations with the parcel owner to purchase land pursuant to this section, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, an appraisal of the parcel shall be required as follows:
- (b) Appraisal fees shall be paid by the agency proposing the acquisition. The board of trustees shall approve qualified fee appraisal organizations. All appraisals used for the acquisition of lands pursuant to this section shall be prepared by a member of an approved appraisal organization or by a statecertified appraiser. The board of trustees Division of State Lands shall adopt rules for selecting individuals to perform

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appraisals pursuant to this section. Each fee appraiser selected to appraise a particular parcel shall, prior to contracting with the agency, submit to that agency an affidavit substantiating that he or she has no vested or fiduciary interest in such parcel.

- (e) Prior to acceptance of an appraisal, the agency shall submit a copy of such report to the Division of State Lands. The division shall review such report for compliance with the rules of the board of trustees. With respect to proposed purchases in excess of \$250,000, this review shall include a general field inspection of the subject property by the review appraiser. The review appraiser may reject an appraisal report following a desk review, but is prohibited from approving an appraisal report in excess of \$250,000 without a field review. Any questions of applicability of laws affecting an appraisal shall be addressed by the legal office of the agency.
- history of the parcel for at least the prior 5 years. Such sales history shall include all parties and considerations with the amount of consideration verified, if possible. If a sales history would not be useful, or its cost prohibitive compared to the value of a parcel, the sales history may be waived by the board of trustees Secretary of Environmental Protection or the director of the Division of State Lands. The board of trustees department shall adopt a rule specifying guidelines for waiver of a sales history.

Section 5. Subsection (6) and (7) of section 253.025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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- 253.025 Acquisition of state lands for purposes other than preservation, conservation, and recreation.--
- (6) Prior to negotiations with the parcel owner to purchase land pursuant to this section, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, an appraisal of the parcel shall be required as follows:
- Each parcel to be acquired shall have at least one appraisal. Two appraisals are required when the estimated value of the parcel exceeds \$500,000 <del>\$1 million</del>. When two appraisals are required, one appraiser shall be selected by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. When both appraisals exceed and differ significantly, a third appraisal shall be obtained, with the Department of Financial Services selecting the third appraiser. Two appraisals shall be considered to differ significantly if the higher of the two values exceeds 120% of the lower value. When the estimated value of a parcel exceeds \$500,000, the review appraiser shall be selected by the Department of Financial Services. To provide for payment by the agency selecting the second and third appraiser and review appraiser, as required by this section, the Department of Environmental Protection shall enter into interagency agreements with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Financial Services, whereby funds will be transferred to those agencies for that purpose upon direction of the selecting agency. When a parcel is estimated to be worth When a parcel is estimated to be worth \$100,000 or less and the director of the Division of State Lands finds that the cost of an outside appraisal is not justified, an appraisal prepared by

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the division may be used a comparable sales analysis or other reasonably prudent procedures may be used by the division to estimate the value of the parcel, provided the public's interest is reasonably protected. The state is not required to appraise the value of lands and appurtenances that are being donated to the state.

- (b) Appraisal fees shall be paid by the agency proposing the acquisition. The board of trustees shall approve qualified fee appraisal organizations. All appraisals used for the acquisition of lands pursuant to this section shall be prepared by a member of an approved appraisal organization or by a state-certified appraiser. The Division of State Lands shall adopt rules for selecting individuals to perform appraisals pursuant to this section. Each fee appraiser selected to appraise a particular parcel shall, prior to contracting with the agency, submit to that agency an affidavit substantiating that he or she has no vested or fiduciary interest in such parcel.
- (c) The board of trustees shall adopt by rule the minimum criteria, techniques, and methods to be used in the preparation of appraisal reports. Such rules shall incorporate, to the extent practicable, generally accepted appraisal standards. Any appraisal issued for acquisition of lands pursuant to this section must comply with the rules adopted by the board of trustees. A certified survey must be made which meets the minimum requirements for upland parcels established in the Minimum Technical Standards for Land Surveying in Florida published by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and which accurately portrays, to the greatest extent

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practicable, the condition of the parcel as it currently exists. The requirement for a certified survey may, in part or in whole, be waived by the board of trustees any time prior to submitting the agreement for purchase to the Division of State Lands. When an existing boundary map and description of a parcel are determined by the division to be sufficient for appraisal purposes, the division director may temporarily waive the requirement for a survey until any time prior to conveyance of title to the parcel. The fee appraiser and the review appraiser for the agency shall not act in any way that may be construed as negotiating with the property owner.

Appraisal reports are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), for use by the agency and the board of trustees, until an option contract is executed or, if no option contract is executed, until 2 weeks before a contract or agreement for purchase is considered for approval by the board of trustees. However, the Division of State Lands may disclose appraisal information to public agencies or nonprofit organizations that agree to maintain the confidentiality of the reports or information when joint acquisition of property is contemplated, or when a public agency or nonprofit organization enters into a written agreement with the division to purchase and hold property for subsequent resale to the division. In addition, the division may use, as its own, appraisals obtained by a public agency or nonprofit organization, provided the appraiser is selected from the division's list of appraisers and the appraisal is reviewed and approved by the division. For the purposes of this paragraph, "nonprofit organization" means an

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organization whose purpose is the preservation of natural resources, and which is exempt from federal income tax under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The agency may release an appraisal report when the passage of time has rendered the conclusions of value in the report invalid.

- (e) Prior to acceptance of an appraisal, the agency shall submit a copy of such report to the Division of State Lands. The division shall review such report for compliance with the rules of the board of trustees. With respect to proposed purchases in excess of \$250,000, this review shall include a general field inspection of the subject property by the review appraiser. The review appraiser may reject an appraisal report following a desk review, but is prohibited from approving an appraisal report in excess of \$250,000 without a field review. Any questions of applicability of laws affecting an appraisal shall be addressed by the legal office of the agency.
- (f) The appraisal report shall be accompanied by the sales history of the parcel for at least the prior 5 years. Such sales history shall include all parties and considerations with the amount of consideration verified, if possible. If a sales history would not be useful, or its cost prohibitive compared to the value of a parcel, the sales history may be waived by the Secretary of Environmental Protection or the director of the Division of State Lands. The department shall adopt a rule specifying guidelines for waiver of a sales history.
- (g) The board of trustees may consider an appraisal acquired by a seller, or any part thereof, in negotiating to purchase a parcel, but such appraisal may not be used in lieu of

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an appraisal required by this subsection or to determine the maximum offer allowed by law.

- (7)(a) When the owner is represented by an agent or broker, negotiations may not be initiated or continued until a written statement verifying such agent's or broker's legal or fiduciary relationship with the owner is on file with the agency.
- (b) The board of trustees or any state agency may contract for real estate acquisition services, including, but not limited to, contracts for real estate commission fees.
- (c) Upon the initiation of negotiations, the state agency shall inform the owner in writing that all agreements for purchase are subject to approval by the board of trustees.
- (d) All offers or counteroffers shall be documented in writing and shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) until an option contract is executed, or if no option contract is executed, until 2 weeks before a contract or agreement for purchase is considered for approval by the board of trustees. The agency shall maintain complete and accurate records of all offers and counteroffers for all projects.
- (e)1. The board of trustees shall adopt by rule the method for determining the value of parcels sought to be acquired by state agencies pursuant to this section. No offer by a state agency, except an offer by an agency acquiring lands pursuant to s. 259.041, may exceed the value for that parcel as determined pursuant to the highest approved appraisal or the value determined pursuant to the rules of the board of trustees, whichever value is less.

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- 2. In the case of a joint acquisition by a state agency and a local government or other entity apart from the state, the joint purchase price may not exceed 150 percent of the value for a parcel as determined in accordance with the limits prescribed in subparagraph 1. The state agency share of a joint purchase offer shall may not exceed the difference between the appraised value, as determined by the state, and the sum of the contributions of the other parties what the agency may offer singly as prescribed by subparagraph 1.
- 3. The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to the acquisition of historically unique or significant property as determined by the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State.
- (f) When making an offer to a landowner, a state agency shall consider the desirability of a single cash payment in relation to the maximum offer allowed by law.
- (g) The state shall have the authority to reimburse the owner for the cost of the survey when deemed appropriate. The reimbursement shall not be considered a part of the purchase price.
- (h) A final offer shall be in the form of an option contract or agreement for purchase and shall be signed and attested to by the owner and the representative of the agency. Before the agency executes the option contract or agreement for purchase, the contract or agreement shall be reviewed for form and legality by legal staff of the agency. Before the agency signs the agreement for purchase or exercises the option contract, the provisions of s. 286.23 shall be complied with.

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Within 10 days after the signing of the agreement for purchase, the state agency shall furnish the Division of State Lands with the original of the agreement for purchase along with copies of the disclosure notice, evidence of marketability, the accepted appraisal report, the fee appraiser's affidavit, a statement that the inventory of existing state-owned lands was examined and contained no available suitable land in the area, and a statement outlining the public purpose for which the acquisition is being made and the statutory authority therefore.

- (i) Within 45 days of receipt by the Division of State
  Lands of the agreement for purchase and the required
  documentation, the board of trustees or, when the purchase price
  does not exceed \$100,000, its designee shall either reject or
  approve the agreement. An approved agreement for purchase is
  binding on both parties. Any agreement which has been
  disapproved shall be returned to the agency, along with a
  statement as to the deficiencies of the agreement or the
  supporting documentation. An agreement for purchase which has
  been disapproved by the board of trustees may be resubmitted
  when such deficiencies have been corrected.
- Section 6. Section 253.0325, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 253.0325 Modernization of state lands records.--
- (1) The Department of Environmental Protection shall initiate an ongoing computerized information systems program to modernize its state lands records and documents that relate to all lands that have been acquired under the Florida Preservation 2000 act pursuant to s. 259.101 or the Florida Forever Act

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- pursuant to s. 259.105, including but not limited to, lands to which title is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The program shall include, at a minimum:
- (a) A document management component to automate the storage and retrieval of information contained in state lands records.
- (b) A land records management component to organize the records by key elements present in the data.
- (c) An evaluation component which includes the collection of resource and environmental data.
- (d) A mapping component to generate and store maps of state-owned parcels using data from the land records management and evaluation components.
- (e) The bond covenants related to each tract purchase and the expiration of such bond convenants.
- (2) The Department of Environmental Protection shall initiate and maintain an information system that is the basis for land acquisition and land management decision making and modeling. The information system shall map in an electronic format the natural communities on each tract of state land and each proposed land acquisition. Natural community is defined as a distinct and recurring assemblage of populations of plants, animals, fungi and microorganisms naturally associated with each other and their physical environment. Each natural community will be partitioned into natural community categories. Each natural community category will be partitioned into natural community groups, and each natural community group will be partitioned into natural community types. The Department of

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- Agriculture and Consumer Services and the will assist in the development and standardization of such a system. The Department of Environmental Protection may utilize a third party for the information system and its data. The Information system and its data are to be proprietary to the state.
- (3)(2) At all stages of its records modernization program, the department shall seek to ensure information systems compatibility within the department and with other state, local, and regional governmental agencies. The department also shall seek to promote standardization in the collection of information regarding state-owned lands by federal, state, regional, and local agencies.
- $\underline{(4)}$  (3) The information collected and stored as a result of the department's modernization of state lands records shall not be considered a final or complete accounting of lands which the state owns or to which the state may claim ownership.
- Section 7. Subsections (1),(2),(4),(5) and (6) of section 253.034, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 253.034 State-owned lands; uses.--
- (1) All lands acquired pursuant to chapter 259 shall be managed to serve the public interest by protecting and conserving land, air, water, and the state's natural resources, which contribute to the public health, welfare, and economy of the state. These lands shall be managed to provide for areas of recreation, including but not limited to, natural resource based recreation, and to ensure the survival of plant and animal species and the conservation of finite and renewable natural resources. The state's lands and natural resources shall be

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managed using a stewardship ethic that assures these resources will be available for the benefit and enjoyment of all people of the state, both present and future. It is the intent of the Legislature that, where feasible and consistent with the goals of protection and conservation of natural resources associated with lands held in the public trust by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, public land not designated for single-use purposes pursuant to paragraph (2)(b) be managed for multiple-use purposes. All multiple-use land management strategies shall address public access and enjoyment, resource conservation and protection, ecosystem maintenance and protection, and protection of threatened and endangered species, and the degree to which public-private partnerships or endowments may allow the entity with management responsibility to enhance its ability to manage these lands. The council created in s. 259.035 shall recommend rules to the board of trustees, and the board shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

- (2) As used in this section, the following phrases have the following meanings:
- (a) "Multiple use" means the harmonious and coordinated management of timber, recreation, conservation of fish and wildlife, forage, archaeological and historic sites, habitat and other biological resources, or water resources so that they are utilized in the combination that will best serve the people of the state, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources and giving consideration to the relative values of the various resources. Where necessary and appropriate

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for all state-owned lands that are larger than 1,000 acres in project size and are managed for multiple uses, buffers may be formed around any areas that require special protection or have special management needs. Such buffers shall not exceed more than one-half of the total acreage. Multiple uses within a buffer area may be restricted to provide the necessary buffering effect desired. Multiple use in this context includes both uses of land or resources by more than one management entity, which may include private sector land managers. In any case, lands identified as multiple-use lands in the land management plan shall be managed to enhance <u>public access</u> and conserve the lands and resources for the enjoyment of the people of the state.

"Single use" means management for one particular purpose to the exclusion of all other purposes, except that the using entity shall have the option of including in its management program compatible secondary purposes which will not detract from or interfere with the primary management purpose. Such single uses may include, but are not necessarily restricted to, the use of agricultural lands for production of food and livestock, the use of improved sites and grounds for institutional purposes, and the use of lands for parks, preserves, wildlife management, archaeological or historic sites, designated preserves, or wilderness areas where the maintenance of essentially natural conditions is important. All submerged lands shall be considered single-use lands and shall be managed primarily for the maintenance of essentially natural conditions, the propagation of fish and wildlife, and public recreation, including hunting and fishing where deemed

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appropriate by the managing entity, except where public access to state waters are enhanced.

"Conservation lands" means state owned lands that are (C) currently managed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the and the Department of Environmental Protection for conservation, outdoor resource-based recreation, or archaeological or historic preservation, except those lands that were acquired solely to facilitate the acquisition of other conservation lands. Lands acquired for uses other than conservation, outdoor resource-based recreation, or archaeological or historic preservation shall not be designated conservation lands except as otherwise authorized under this section. These lands shall include, but not be limited to, the following: correction and detention facilities, military installations and facilities, state office buildings, maintenance yards, state university or state community college campuses, agricultural field stations or offices, tower sites, law enforcement and license facilities, laboratories, hospitals, clinics, and other sites that possess no significant natural or historical resources. However, lands acquired solely to facilitate the acquisition of other conservation land shall be considered conservation lands and included in land management plans and included in the allocation of land management funding, if in doing so provides an increase in public recreation opportunities or creates a more efficient land management plan. However, lands acquired solely to facilitate the acquisition of other conservation lands, and for which the land management plan has not yet been completed or updated, may be evaluated by the

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Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund on a case-by-case basis to determine if they will be designated conservation lands.

Lands acquired by the state as a gift, through donation, or by any other conveyance for which no consideration was paid, and which are not managed for conservation, outdoor resource-based recreation, or archaeological or historic preservation under a land management plan approved by the board of trustees are not conservation lands.

conservation of the state's plant and animal species and to assure the accessibility of state lands for the benefit and enjoyment of all people of the state, both present and future.

Each land management plan shall provide a desired outcome, and shall describe both short-term and long-term management goals and include measurable objectives to achieve those goals.

Short-term goals shall be achievable within a two year planning period and long-term goals shall be achievable within a ten year planning period. These short-term and long-term management goals shall be the basis for all subsequent land management activities and are intended to be financially sustainable in achieving the desired outcome.

(a) Short-term and long-term management goals shall include measureable objectives for the following:.

1. Habitat restoration and improvement.

2. Public access and recreational opportunities.

3. Hydrological preservation and restoration.

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4. Sustainable forest management.

- 5. Exotic and invasive species maintenance and control.
- 6. Capital facilities and infrastructure
- 7. Financial sustainability of land management activities.
- (b) The land management plan shall at a minimum contain the following elements:
  - 1. Physical description of the land.
- 2. A quantitative data description of the land that includes an inventory of forest resources; exotic and invasive plants; hydrological features; infrastructure, including recreational facilities; and other significant land features.

  The inventory shall reflect the number of acres for each resource and feature, when appropriate. The inventory shall be of such detail that objective measures and benchmarks can be established for each tract of land and monitored during the lifetime of the plan. All quantitative data collected shall be aggregated, standardized, collected and presented in an electronic format to allow for uniform management reporting and analysis. The information collected by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to s. 253.0325(2) shall be available to the land manager and their assignee.
- 3. A detailed description of each short-term and long-term land management goal, the associated measureable objectives and the related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives. Each land management objective must be addressed by the land management plan but no land management objective shall be performed to the detriment of the other land management objectives.

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- 4. A schedule of land management activities shall be prepared that contains short-term and long-term land management goals and the related measureable objective and activities. The schedule shall include for each activity a timeline for completion, quantitative measures, and detailed expense and manpower budgets. The schedule is to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures.
- 5. A summary budget for the scheduled land management activities of the land management plan. The summary budget shall be prepared in such a manner that it facilitates computing an aggregate of land management costs for all state managed lands utilizing the categories described in s. 259.037(3).
- (c) Upon completion, the land management plan will be transmitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review. After a 30-day review and comment period, the land management plan will become operational. If the Acquisition and Restoration Council determines that revisions to the land management plan are needed, the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, Commissioner of Agriculture, and Executive Director of the or their designees shall develop a consensus for the revisions and redraft the plan. During the redrafting period, no funds for the management of the land may be expended other than those needed to address emergency situations.
- (d) Biennially, the state lands with an approved land management plan must be monitored by the and reviewed by a certified third party. The shall prepare a monitoring report that assesses the progress towards achieving short-term and

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long-term land management goal and shall identify deficiencies in management activities. The monitoring report shall be submitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council and the managing agency. The third party review and analysis of the management plan shall identify the progress toward achieving short-term and long-term land management goal. The third party review and analysis shall describe corrective actions to address identified deficiencies. The third party review and analysis are to be submitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council and the managing agency. The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review the monitoring report and the third party review and analysis and determine deficiencies that require a corrective action plan or revision to the land management plan. Such corrective actions or revision shall be brought in front of the board of trustees, which shall determine whether the corrective actions or revision sufficiently address the identified deficiencies. Corrective action plans shall be prepared and submitted in the same manner as land management plans.

- (e) Land management plans are to be updated every 10 years on a rotating basis.
- (f) In developing land management plans, at least two public hearings will be held.

Each manager of conservation lands shall submit to the Division of State Lands a land management plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board and in accordance with the provisions of s. 259.032. Each manager of conservation lands shall also update a land management plan

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whenever the manager proposes to add new facilities or make substantive land use or management changes that were not addressed in the approved plan, or within 1 year of the addition of significant new lands. Each manager of nonconservation lands shall submit to the Division of State Lands a land use plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board. The division shall review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection and the requirements of the rules established by the board pursuant to this section. All land use plans, whether for single-use or multiple-use properties, shall include an analysis of the property to determine if any significant natural or cultural resources are located on the property. Such resources include archaeological and historic sites, state and federally listed plant and animal species, and imperiled natural communities and unique natural features. If such resources occur on the property, the manager shall consult with the Division of State Lands and other appropriate agencies to develop management strategies to protect such resources. Land use plans shall also provide for the control of invasive nonnative plants and conservation of soil and water resources, including a description of how the manager plans to control and prevent soil erosion and soil or water contamination. Land use plans submitted by a manager shall include reference to appropriate statutory authority for such use or uses and shall conform to the appropriate policies and quidelines of the state land management plan. Plans for managed areas larger than 1,000 acres shall contain an analysis of the multiple-use potential of the property, which analysis shall

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enhance the management of the property. Additionally, the plan shall contain an analysis of the potential use of private land managers to facilitate the restoration or management of these lands. In those cases where a newly acquired property has a valid conservation plan that was developed by a soil and conservation district, such plan shall be used to guide management of the property until a formal land use plan is completed.

(g) (a) Each land manager The Division of State Lands shall make available to the public an electronic copy a copy of each land management plan for parcels that exceed 160 acres in size. The council shall review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection, the requirements of chapter 259, and the requirements of the rules established by the board pursuant to this section. The council shall also consider the propriety of the recommendations of the managing entity with regard to the future use of the property, the protection of fragile or nonrenewable resources, the potential for alternative or multiple uses not recognized by the managing entity, and the possibility of disposal of the property by the board. After its review, the council shall submit the plan, along with its recommendations and comments, to the board. The council shall specifically recommend to the board whether to approve the plan as submitted, approve the plan with modifications, or reject the plan.

(h) (b) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement
Trust Fund shall consider the land management plan submitted by

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each entity and the recommendations of the council and the Division of State Lands and shall approve the plan with or without modification or reject such plan. The use or possession of any such lands that is not in accordance with an approved land management plan is subject to termination by the board.

- Trust Fund shall determine which lands, the title to which is vested in the board, may be surplused. For conservation lands, the board shall make a determination that the lands are no longer needed for conservation purposes and may dispose of them by an affirmative vote of at least three members. In the case of a land exchange involving the disposition of conservation lands, the board must determine by an affirmative vote of at least three members that the exchange will result in a net positive conservation benefit. For all other lands, the board shall make a determination that the lands are no longer needed and may dispose of them by an affirmative vote of at least three members.
- (a) For the purposes of this subsection, all state owned lands managed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer

  Services and the , and the Department of Environmental

  Protection, and all lands acquired by the state prior to July 1, 1999, using proceeds from the Preservation 2000 bonds, the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, the Water

  Management Lands Trust Fund, Environmentally Endangered Lands

  Program, and the Save Our Coast Program and titled to the board of trustees, which lands are identified as core parcels or

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within original project boundaries, shall be deemed to have been acquired for conservation purposes.

- (b) For any lands purchased by the state on or after July 1, 1999, a determination shall be made by the board prior to acquisition as to those parcels that shall be designated as having been acquired for conservation purposes. No lands acquired for use by the Department of Corrections, the Department of Management Services for use as state offices, the Department of Transportation, except those specifically managed for conservation or recreation purposes, or the State University System or the Florida Community College System shall be designated as having been purchased for conservation purposes.
- management plan or land use plan and in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board, each manager shall evaluate and indicate to the board those lands that are not being used for the purpose for which they were originally leased. For conservation lands, the council shall review and shall recommend to the board whether such lands should be retained in public ownership or disposed of by the board. For nonconservation lands, the division shall review such lands and shall recommend to the board whether such lands should be retained in public ownership or disposed of by the board.
- (d) Lands owned by the board which are not actively managed by any state agency or for which a land management plan has not been completed pursuant to subsection (5) shall be reviewed by the council or its successor for its recommendation

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as to whether such lands should be <u>managed by a private</u> contractor, leased or disposed of by the board.

- (e) Prior to any decision by the board to surplus lands, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review and make recommendations to the board concerning the request for surplusing. The council shall determine whether the request for surplusing is compatible with the resource values of land management objectives for such lands.
- In reviewing lands owned by the board, the council shall consider whether such lands would be more appropriately owned or managed by the county or other unit of local government in which the land is located. The council shall recommend to the board whether a sale, lease, or other conveyance to a local government would be in the best interests of the state and local government. The provisions of this paragraph in no way limit the provisions of ss. 253.111 and 253.115. Such lands shall be offered to the state, county, or local government for a period of 30 days. Permittable uses for such surplus lands may include public schools; public libraries; fire or law enforcement substations; governmental, judicial, or recreational centers; and affordable housing meeting the criteria of s. 420.0004(3). County or local government requests for surplus lands shall be expedited throughout the surplusing process. If the county or local government does not elect to purchase such lands in accordance with s. 253.111, then any surplusing determination involving other governmental agencies shall be made upon the board deciding the best public use of the lands. Surplus

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properties in which governmental agencies have expressed no interest shall then be available for sale on the private market.

- 2. Notwithstanding subparagraph 1., any parcel of surplus lands less than 3 acres in size which was acquired by the state before 1955 by gift or other conveyance or for \$1 consideration from a fair association incorporated under chapter 616 for the purpose of conducting and operating public fairs or expositions, and concerning which the department has filed by July 1, 2008, a notice of intent to dispose of as surplus lands, shall be offered for reconveyance to such fair association for no consideration; however, the agency that last held the lease from the board for management of such lands may remove from the lands any improvements, fixtures, goods, wares, and merchandise within 180 days after the effective date of the reconveyance. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2008.
- (g) The sale price of lands determined to be surplus pursuant to this subsection and s. 253.82 shall be determined by the division and shall take into consideration an appraisal of the property, or, when the estimated value of the land is less than \$100,000, a comparable sales analysis or a broker's opinion of value, and the price paid by the state to originally acquire the lands. In the event that a single appraisal yields a value equal to or greater than \$1 million, a second appraisal is required. The individual or entity requesting the surplus shall select and use appraisers from the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands in accordance with s. 253.025(6)(b). The individual or entity requesting the surplus is to incur all costs of the second appraisal.

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- 1.a. A written valuation of land determined to be surplus pursuant to this subsection and s. 253.82, and related documents used to form the valuation or which pertain to the valuation, are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution until 2 weeks before the contract or agreement regarding the purchase, exchange, or disposal of the surplus land is first considered for approval by the board. Notwithstanding the exemption provided under this subparagraph, the division may disclose appraisals, valuations, or valuation information regarding surplus land during negotiations for the sale or exchange of the land, during the marketing effort or bidding process associated with the sale, disposal, or exchange of the land to facilitate closure of such effort or process, when the passage of time has made the conclusions of value invalid, or when negotiations or marketing efforts concerning the land are concluded.
- b. This subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2009, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.
- 2. A unit of government that acquires title to lands hereunder for less than appraised value may not sell or transfer title to all or any portion of the lands to any private owner for a period of 10 years. Any unit of government seeking to transfer or sell lands pursuant to this paragraph shall first allow the board of trustees to reacquire such lands for the price at which the board sold such lands.

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(h) Where a unit of government acquired land by gift, donation, grant, quitclaim deed, or other such conveyance where no monetary consideration was exchanged, the price of land sold as surplus may be based on one appraisal. In the event that a single appraisal yields a value equal to or greater than \$1 million, a second appraisal is required. The individual or entity requesting the surplus shall select and use appraisers from the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands in accordance with s. 253.025(6)(b). The individual or entity requesting the surplus is to incur all costs of the appraisals.

(h)(i) After reviewing the recommendations of the council, the board shall determine whether lands identified for surplus are to be held for other public purposes or whether such lands are no longer needed. The board may require an agency to release its interest in such lands. For an agency that has requested the use of a property that was to be declared as surplus, said agency must have the property under lease within 6 months of the date of expiration of the notice provisions required under this subsection and s. 253.111.

(i) (j) Requests for surplusing may be made by any public or private entity or person. All requests shall be submitted to the lead managing agency for review and recommendation to the council or its successor. Lead managing agencies shall have 90 days to review such requests and make recommendations. Any surplusing requests that have not been acted upon within the 90-day time period shall be immediately scheduled for hearing at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the council or its

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successor. Requests for surplusing pursuant to this paragraph shall not be required to be offered to local or state governments as provided in paragraph (f).

(j)(k) Proceeds from any sale of surplus lands pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into the fund from which such lands were acquired. However, if the fund from which the lands were originally acquired no longer exists, such proceeds shall be deposited into an appropriate account to be used for land management by the lead managing agency assigned the lands prior to the lands being declared surplus. Funds received from the sale of surplus nonconservation lands, or lands that were acquired by gift, by donation, or for no consideration, shall be deposited into the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

 $\underline{(k)}$  (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, no such disposition of land shall be made if such disposition would have the effect of causing all or any portion of the interest on any revenue bonds issued to lose the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

 $\underline{\text{(1)}}$  The sale of filled, formerly submerged land that does not exceed 5 acres in area is not subject to review by the council or its successor.

(m) (n) The board may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section, which may include procedures for administering surplus land requests and criteria for when the division may approve requests to surplus nonconservation lands on behalf of the board.

Section 8. Subsection (3) of section 253.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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- 253.111 Notice to board of county commissioners before sale.—The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the state may not sell any land to which they hold title unless and until they afford an opportunity to the county in which such land is situated to receive such land on the following terms and conditions:
- (3) If the board receives, within 45 30 days after notice is given to the board of county commissioners pursuant to subsection (1), the certified copy of the resolution provided for in subsection (2), the board shall forthwith convey to the county such land at a price that is equal to its appraised market value established by generally accepted professional standards for real estate appraisal and subject to such other terms and conditions as the board determines.
- Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 253.82, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 253.82 Title of state or private owners to Murphy Act lands.--
- (2) (b) Land to which title is vested in the board of trustees by paragraph (a) shall be treated in the same manner as other nonsovereignty lands owned by the board. However, any parcel of land the title to which is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund pursuant to this section which is 10 acres or less in size and has <u>a</u> an appraised market value of \$250,000 or less is hereby declared surplus, except for lands determined to be needed for state use, and may be sold in any manner provided by law. Only one appraisal shall be required for a sale of such land. All proceeds from the sale

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of such land shall be deposited into the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund is authorized to adopt rules to implement the provisions of this subsection.

Section 10. Section 259.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.032 Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund; purpose.--

It is the policy of the state that the citizens of this state shall be assured public ownership of natural areas for purposes of maintaining this state's unique natural resources; protecting air, land, and water quality; promoting water resource development to meet the needs of natural systems and citizens of this state; promoting restoration activities on restoring and managing public lands; and providing lands for recreation, including but not limited to, natural resource based recreation. In recognition of this policy, it is the intent of the Legislature to provide such public lands for the people residing in urban and metropolitan areas of the state, as well as those residing in less populated, rural areas. It is the further intent of the Legislature, with regard to the lands described in paragraph (3)(c), that a high priority be given to the acquisition, restoration, enhancement and management of such lands in or near counties exhibiting the greatest concentration of population and, with regard to the lands described in subsection (3), that a high priority be given to acquiring lands or rights or interests in lands which advance the goal and objectives of Fish and Wildlife Commission approved management

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plans, or lands within any area designated as an area of critical state concern under s. 380.05 which, in the judgment of the advisory council established pursuant to s. 259.035, or its successor, cannot be adequately protected by application of land development regulations adopted pursuant to s. 380.05. Finally, it is the Legislature's intent that lands acquired through this program and any successor programs be managed in such a way as to protect or restore their natural resource values, and provide the greatest benefit, including public access, to the citizens of this state.

- (2) (a) The Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund is established within the Department of Environmental Protection. The fund shall be used as a nonlapsing, revolving fund exclusively for the purposes of this section. The fund shall be credited with proceeds from the following excise taxes:
- 1. The excise taxes on documents as provided in s.  $\underline{201.15}$ ; and
- 2. The excise tax on the severance of phosphate rock as provided in s. 211.3103.

The Department of Revenue shall credit to the fund each month the proceeds from such taxes as provided in this paragraph.

(b) There shall annually be transferred from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund that amount, not to exceed \$20 million annually, as shall be necessary to pay the debt service on, or fund debt service reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts with respect to bonds issued pursuant to s. 375.051 to

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acquire lands on the established priority list developed pursuant to ss. 259.101(4) and 259.105; however, no moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this paragraph, or earnings thereon, shall be used or made available to pay debt service on the Save Our Coast revenue bonds. Amounts transferred annually from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this paragraph shall have the highest priority over other payments or transfers from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, and no other payments or transfers shall be made from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund until such transfers to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund have been made. Moneys in the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund also shall be used to restore and manage lands and to pay for related costs, activities, and functions pursuant to the provisions of this section.

- (3) The Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, may allocate moneys from the fund in any one year to acquire the fee or any lesser interest in lands for the following public purposes:
- (a) To conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area;
- (b) To conserve and protect lands within designated areas of critical state concern, if the proposed acquisition relates to the natural resource protection purposes of the designation;

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- (c) To conserve—and, protect, manage or restore habitat

  for native or imperiled species habitat or, or of concern by the

  United States of State, endangered or threatened species,

  emphasizing long—term protection for endangered or threatened

  species designated G-1 or G-2 by the Florida Natural Areas

  Inventory, and especially those areas that are special locations

  for breeding and reproduction of such species;
- (d) To conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, <u>imperiled species habitat</u> and forests, if the protection and conservation of such lands is necessary to enhance or protect significant surface water, groundwater, coastal, recreational, timber, or fish or wildlife resources which <u>advance the goal and objectives of Fish and Wildlife</u>

  Commission approved management plans, or cannot otherwise be accomplished through local and state regulatory programs;
- (e) To promote water resource development that benefits natural systems and citizens of the state;
- (f) To facilitate the restoration and subsequent health and vitality of the Florida Everglades;
- (g) To provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural resource based recreation and other outdoor recreation on any part of any site compatible with conservation purposes;
- (h) To preserve significant archaeological or historic sites; or
- (i) To conserve urban open spaces suitable for greenways or outdoor recreation which are compatible with conservation purposes.

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(j) To preserve agricultural lands under threat of conversion to development through less-than-fee acquisitions.

- In order for the board of trustee to authorize the expenditure of funds to acquire a fee simple or less-than-fee interest in land pursuant to this section, the Acquisition and Restoration Council, by July 1,2009, shall develop and adopt rules providing specific acquisition criteria and numeric performance measures needed to prioritize land acquisitions acquired for public purpose. The rules shall be submitted to the board of trustees for approval. Rules approved by the board of trustees shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House prior to interim committee meetings for the next legislative session. The rules shall not become effective until
- (4)—(a) Lands acquired under this section shall be for use as state-designated parks, recreation areas, preserves, reserves, historic or archaeological sites, geologic or botanical sites, recreational trails, forests, wilderness areas, wildlife management areas, urban open space, or other state-designated recreation or conservation lands; or they shall qualify for such state designation and use if they are to be managed by other governmental agencies or nonstate entities as provided for in this section.
- (b) In addition to the uses allowed in paragraph (a), moneys may be transferred from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the Florida Forever Trust Fund or the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. This paragraph expires July 1, 2007.

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adoption by the legislature.

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- (5) The board of trustees may allocate, in any year, an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the money credited to the fund in that year, such allocation shall be used for the purposes of 253.0325(2) the initiation and maintenance of a natural areas inventory to aid in the identification of areas to be acquired pursuant to this section.
- (6) Moneys in the fund not needed to meet obligations incurred under this section shall be deposited with the Chief Financial Officer to the credit of the fund and may be invested in the manner provided by law. Interest received on such investments shall be credited to the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund.
- necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section. The lead land managing agencies designated by the board of trustees also are directed by the Legislature, to the greatest extent possible, to enter into contracts or interagency agreements with other governmental entities, including local soil and water conservation districts, or private land managers who have the expertise to perform specific management activities which a lead agency lacks, or which would cost more to provide in-house. Such activities shall include, but not be limited to, controlled burning, road and ditch maintenance, mowing, and wildlife assessments. The lead land managing agency shall contract with the for those lands which contain imperiled species habitat.
- (8) Lands to be considered for purchase under this section are subject to the selection procedures of s. 259.035 and related rules and shall be acquired in accordance with

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1143 acquisition procedures for state lands provided for in s. 1144 259.041, except as otherwise provided by the Legislature. An inholding or an addition to a project selected for purchase 1145 1146 pursuant to this chapter is not subject to the selection procedures of s. 259.035 if the estimated value of such 1147 inholding or addition does not exceed \$500,000. When at least 90 1148 percent of the acreage of a project has been purchased pursuant 1149 to this chapter, the project may be removed from the list and 1150 1151 the remaining acreage may continue to be purchased. Moneys from 1152 the fund may be used for title work, appraisal fees, 1153 environmental audits, and survey costs related to acquisition 1154 expenses for lands to be acquired, donated, or exchanged which 1155 qualify under the categories of this section, at the discretion 1156 of the board. When the Legislature has authorized the Department 1157 of Environmental Protection to condemn a specific parcel of land 1158 and such parcel has already been approved for acquisition under 1159 this section, the land may be acquired in accordance with the 1160 provisions of chapter 73 or chapter 74, and the fund may be used to pay the condemnation award and all costs, including a 1161 1162 reasonable attorney's fee, associated with condemnation.

- (9) All lands managed under this chapter and s. 253.034 shall be:
- (a) Managed in a manner that will provide the greatest combination of benefits to the public  $\frac{1}{2}$  and to the resources  $\frac{1}{2}$  including imperiled species.
- (b) Managed for public <del>outdoor</del> recreation which is compatible with the conservation and protection of public lands. Such management may include, but not be limited to, the

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- following public recreational uses: fishing, hunting, camping, bicycling, hiking, nature study, swimming, boating, canoeing, horseback riding, diving, model hobbyist activities, birding, sailing, jogging, and other related outdoor activities compatible with the purposes for which the lands were acquired.
  - (c) Managed for the purposes for which the lands were acquired, consistent with paragraph (11)(a)—, and where imperiled species habitat exists, restored and managed to advance the goals and objectives of Fish and Wildlife Commission approved management plans.
  - (d) Concurrent with its adoption of the annual Conservation and Recreation Lands list of acquisition projects pursuant to s. 259.035, the board of trustees shall adopt a management prospectus for each project. The management prospectus shall delineate:
    - 1. The management goals for the property;
  - 2. The conditions that will affect the intensity of management;
  - 3. An estimate of the revenue-generating potential of the property, if appropriate;
  - 4. A timetable for implementing the various stages of management and for providing access to the public, if applicable;
  - 5. A description of potential multiple-use activities as described in this section and s. 253.034;
- 1196 6. Provisions for protecting existing infrastructure and 1197 for ensuring the security of the project upon acquisition;

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- 7. The anticipated costs of <u>restoration and</u> management and projected sources of revenue, including legislative appropriations, to fund management needs; and
- 8. Recommendations as to how many employees will be needed to <u>restore and manage</u> the property, and recommendations as to whether local governments, volunteer groups, the former landowner, or other interested parties can be involved in the <u>restoration and management</u>.
- The costs of infrastructure and management identified in the management prospectus will be standardized and aggregated in a manner sufficient to allow reporting to board of trustee and the legislature.
- (e) Concurrent with the approval of the acquisition contract pursuant to s. 259.041(3)(c) for any interest in lands except those lands being acquired under the provisions of s. 259.1052, the board of trustees shall designate an agency or agencies to restore and manage such lands. The board shall evaluate and amend, as appropriate, the management policy statement for the project as provided by s. 259.035, consistent with the purposes for which the lands are acquired. For any fee simple acquisition of a parcel which is or will be leased back for agricultural purposes, or any acquisition of a less-than-fee interest in land that is or will be used for agricultural purposes, the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall first consider having a soil and water conservation district, created pursuant to chapter 582, manage and monitor such interests.

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- under this chapter except those lands acquired under s. 259.1052 may contract with the Fish and Wildlife Commission, local governments, and soil and water conservation districts, and private entities to assist in restoration and management activities, including the responsibility of being the lead land manager. Such land management contracts may include a provision for the transfer of management funding to the Fish and Wildlife Commission, local government or soil and water conservation district from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund in an amount adequate for the Fish and Wildlife Commission, local government or soil and water conservation district to perform its contractual land management responsibilities and proportionate to its responsibilities, and which otherwise would have been expended by the state agency to manage the property.
- (g) Immediately following the acquisition of any interest in lands under this chapter, the Department of Environmental Protection, acting on behalf of the board of trustees, may issue to the lead managing entity an interim assignment letter to be effective until the execution of a formal lease.
- (10) (a) State, regional, or local governmental agencies or private entities designated to manage lands under this section shall develop and adopt, with the approval of the board of trustees, an individual <u>land</u> management plan for each project designed to conserve, restore and protect such lands and their associated natural resources. Private sector involvement in <u>land</u> management plan development may be used to expedite the planning process.

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- Individual land management plans required by s. 253.034(5), for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group. Members of this advisory group shall include, at a minimum, representatives of the lead land managing agency, comanaging entities, local private property owners, the appropriate soil and water conservation district, a local conservation organization, and a local elected official, and where the parcel contains imperiled species, the Fish and Wildlife Commission. The advisory group shall conduct at least two public hearings one public hearing within the county in which the parcel or project is located. For those parcels or projects that are within more than one county, at least one additional areawide public hearing is required shall be acceptable and the lead managing agency shall invite a local elected official from each county. The areawide public hearing shall be held in the county in which the core parcels are located. Notice of such public hearing shall be posted on the parcel or project designated for management, advertised in a paper of general circulation, and announced at a scheduled meeting of the local governing body before the actual public hearing. The management prospectus required pursuant to paragraph (9)(d) shall be available to the public for a period of 30 days prior each to the public hearing.
- (c) Once a plan is adopted, the managing agency or entity shall update the plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule of the board of trustees. Such updates, for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group. Such plans may include transfers

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of leasehold interests to appropriate conservation organizations or governmental entities designated by the Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council or its successor, for uses consistent with the purposes of the organizations and the protection, preservation, conservation, restoration, and proper management of the lands and their resources. Volunteer management assistance is encouraged, including, but not limited to, assistance by youths participating in programs sponsored by state or local agencies, by volunteers sponsored by environmental or civic organizations, and by individuals participating in programs for committed delinquents and adults.

- (d)1. For each project for which lands are acquired after July 1, 2008 1995, an individual land management plan shall be adopted and in place no later than 1 year after the essential parcel or parcels identified in the priority list developed pursuant to ss. 259.101(4) and 259.105 have been acquired. The Department of Environmental Protection shall distribute only 75 percent of the acquisition funds to which a budget entity or water management district would otherwise be entitled from the Preservation 2000 Trust Fund to any budget entity or any water management district that has more than one-third of its land management plans overdue.
- 2. The requirements of subparagraph 1. do not apply to the individual management plan for the Babcock Crescent B Ranch being acquired pursuant to s. 259.1052. The management plan for the ranch shall be adopted and in place no later than 2 years following the date of acquisition by the state.

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- (e) Individual <u>land</u> management plans shall conform to the <u>requirements of s. 253.034(5)</u> and the appropriate policies and guidelines of the state land management plan and shall include, but not be limited to:
- 1. A statement of the purpose for which the lands were acquired, the projected use or uses as defined in s. 253.034, and the statutory authority for such use or uses.
- 2. Key management activities necessary to <u>achieve the</u> desired outcome, including but not limited to, providing public access, preserving and protecting natural resources, and restoring habitat, controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals, performing prescribed fire activities and other appropriate resource management activities preserve and protect natural resources and restore habitat, and for controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals, and for prescribed fire and other appropriate resource management activities.
- 3. A specific description of how the managing agency plans to identify, locate, protect, and preserve, or otherwise use fragile, nonrenewable natural and cultural resources.
- 4. A priority schedule for conducting <u>restoration and</u> management activities, based on <u>the desired outcome of the land</u> management plan <del>purposes for which the lands were acquired</del>.
- 5. A cost estimate for conducting priority restoration and management activities, to include recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities, and for projects that include imperiled species habitat, performance measures and costs developed by or in coordination with the Fish and Wildlife Commission to restore, enhance restock and manage

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such habitat and to advance the goal and objectives of Fish and Wildlife Commission approved management plans.

- 6. A cost estimate for conducting other management activities which would enhance the natural resource value or public recreation value for which the lands were acquired. The cost estimate shall include recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities.
- 7. A determination of the public uses and public access that are to be provided and would be consistent with the purposes for which the lands were acquired.
- (f) The Division of State Lands shall submit a copy of each individual <u>land</u> management plan for parcels <del>which exceed</del> 160 acres in size to each member of the <u>Acquisition and Restoration Council Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council or its successor</u>, which shall:
- 1. Within 60 days after receiving a plan from the division, review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection, 253.034(5), and with the requirements of the rules established by the board pursuant to this subsection.
- 2. Consider the propriety of the recommendations of the managing agency with regard to the future use or protection of the property.
- 3. After its review, submit the plan, along with its recommendations and comments, to the board of trustees, with recommendations as to whether to approve the plan as submitted, approve the plan with modifications, or reject the plan.
- (g) The board of trustees shall consider the individual management plan submitted by each state agency and the

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recommendations of the Acquisition and Restoration Council Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council, or its successor, and the Division of State Lands and shall approve the plan with or without modification or reject such plan. The use or possession of any lands owned by the board of trustees which is not in accordance with an approved individual management plan is subject to termination by the board of trustees.

- By July 1 of each year, each governmental agency and each private entity designated to manage lands shall report to the Secretary of Environmental Protection on the progress of funding, staffing, and resource management of every project for which the agency or entity is responsible.
- (11) (a) The Legislature recognizes that acquiring lands pursuant to this chapter serves the public interest by protecting land, air, and water resources which contribute to the public health and welfare, providing areas for natural resource based recreation, and ensuring the recovery and survival of unique and irreplaceable plant and animal species, including imperiled species. The Legislature intends for these lands to be managed and maintained for the purposes for which they were acquired and for the public to have access to and use of these lands where it is consistent with acquisition purposes and would not harm the resources the state is seeking to protect and manage on the public's behalf.
- (b) An amount of <u>not less than</u> <del>up to</del> 1.5 percent of the cumulative total of funds ever deposited into the Florida Preservation 2000 Trust Fund and the Florida Forever Trust Fund

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shall be made available for the purposes of restoration, management, maintenance, and capital improvements not eligible for funding pursuant to s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State Constitution, and for associated contractual services, for lands acquired pursuant to this section, s. 259.101, s. 259.105, s. 259.1052, or previous programs for the acquisition of lands for conservation and recreation, including state forests, to which title is vested in the board of trustees and other conservation and recreation lands managed by a state agency. Of this amount, \$250,000 shall be transferred annually to the Plant Industry Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the purpose of implementing the Endangered or Threatened Native Flora Conservation Grants Program pursuant to s. 581.185(11). Each agency with management responsibilities shall annually request from the Legislature funds sufficient to fulfill such responsibilities to implement individual land management plans. For the purposes of this paragraph, capital improvements shall include, but need not be limited to, perimeter fencing, signs, firelanes, access roads and trails, and minimal public accommodations, such as primitive campsites, garbage receptacles, and toilets, and habitat restoration and management. Any equipment purchased with funds provided pursuant to this paragraph may be used for appropriate land management activities on state lands the purposes described paragraph on any conservation and recreation lands managed by a state agency.

Protection, the Executive Director of the , and the Commissioner

The Secretary of the Department of Environmental

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of Agriculture shall prepare and deliver a report to the
President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
Representatives no later than December 31, 2008 that provides a
formula and the methodology used to develop the formula used to
allocate land management In requesting funds provided for in
paragraph (b) for long-term management of all acquisitions
pursuant to this chapter and for associated contractual
services. The methodology and formula shall recognize, but not
be limited to, the following: the managing agencies shall
recognize the following categories of land management needs:

- 1. The assignment of management intensity associated with the natural community categories, groups and types provided in s. 253.0325(2) and the related management activities to land management goals provided in s. 253.034(5).
- 2. The assignment of management intensity associated with public access, including but not limited to:
- a. The acres of land which require minimal effort for resource preservation, development, or restoration these lands generally are open to the public but offer no more than minimally developed facilities;
- b. The acres of land which require moderate effort for resource preservation, development, or restoration these lands typically have a high degree of public use and offer highly developed facilities;
- c. The acres of land which require significant effort for resource preservation, development, or restoration these lands generally are sites with historic significance or unique natural features, and a very high degree of public use.

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- 1448 3. The acres of land with a secondary manager contributing to the over-all management effort.
  - $\underline{\text{4.}}$  The anticipated revenues generated from management of the lands.
  - 5. The impacts of, and needs created or addressed by, multiple-use management strategies.
  - 6. The acres of land with infestations of non-native or invasive plants, animals, or fish.
  - 1. Lands which are low-need tracts, requiring basic resource management and protection, such as state reserves, state preserves, state forests, and wildlife management areas. These lands generally are open to the public but have no more than minimum facilities development.
  - 2. Lands which are moderate-need tracts, requiring more than basic resource management and protection, such as state parks and state recreation areas. These lands generally have extra restoration or protection needs, higher concentrations of public use, or more highly developed facilities.
  - 3. Lands which are high-need tracts, with identified needs requiring unique site-specific resource management and protection. These lands generally are sites with historic significance, unique natural features, or very high intensity public use, or sites that require extra funds to stabilize or protect resources, such as lands with heavy infestations of nonnative, invasive plants.

In evaluating the management funding needs of lands based on the above categories, the lead land managing agencies shall include

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in their considerations the impacts of, and needs created or addressed by, multiple-use management strategies. Beginning

July 1, 2009, no funds provided in paragraph (b) shall be allocated, distributed or expended until the allocation formula for funding land management activities has be adopted by the legislature. Upon adoption, the allocation formula will be used in the allocation and distribution of funds provided in paragraph (b).

- (d) All revenues generated through multiple-use management or compatible secondary-use management shall be returned to the lead agency responsible for such management and shall be used to pay for management activities on all conservation, preservation, and recreation lands under the agency's jurisdiction. In addition, such revenues shall be segregated in an agency trust fund and shall remain available to the agency in subsequent fiscal years to support land management appropriations. For the purposes of this paragraph, compatible secondary-use management shall be those activities described in subsection (9) undertaken on parcels designated as single use pursuant to s. 253.034(2)(b).
- (e) Up to one-fifth of the funds provided for in paragraph (b) shall be reserved by the board of trustees for interim restoration and management of acquisitions and for associated contractual services, to ensure the restoration, conservation and protection of natural resources on project sites and to allow limited public recreational use of lands. Interim management activities may include, but not be limited to, resource assessments, control of invasive, nonnative species,

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habitat restoration, fencing, law enforcement, controlled burning, and public access consistent with preliminary determinations made pursuant to paragraph (9)(g). The board of trustees shall make these interim funds available immediately upon purchase.

- (f) The department shall set long-range and annual goals for the control and removal of nonnative, invasive plant species on public lands. Such goals shall differentiate between aquatic plant species and upland plant species. In setting such goals, the department may rank, in order of adverse impact, species that impede or destroy the functioning of natural systems. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), up to one-fourth of the funds provided for in paragraph (b) may be used by the agencies receiving those funds for control and removal of nonnative, invasive species on public lands.
- (g) In addition to the purposes specified in paragraph (b), funds from the 1.5 percent of the cumulative total of funds ever deposited into the Florida Preservation 2000 Trust Fund and the Florida Forever Trust Fund may be appropriated for the 2006-2007 fiscal year for the construction of replacement museum facilities. This paragraph expires July 1, 2007.
- (12) (a) Beginning July 1, 1999, the Legislature shall make available sufficient funds annually from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the department for payment in lieu of taxes to qualifying counties and local governments as defined in paragraph (b) for all actual tax losses incurred as a result of board of trustees acquisitions for state agencies under the Florida Forever program or the Florida Preservation

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2000 program during any year. Reserved funds not used for payments in lieu of taxes in any year shall revert to the fund to be used for land management in accordance with the provisions of this section.

- (b) Payment in lieu of taxes shall be available:
- 1. To all counties that have a population of 150,000 or fewer. Population levels shall be determined pursuant to s. 11.031.
  - 2. To all local governments located in eligible counties.
- 3. To Glades County, where a privately owned and operated prison leased to the state has recently been opened and where privately owned and operated juvenile justice facilities leased to the state have recently been constructed and opened, a payment in lieu of taxes, in an amount that offsets the loss of property tax revenue, which funds have already been appropriated and allocated from the Department of Correction's budget for the purpose of reimbursing amounts equal to lost ad valorem taxes.
- (c) If insufficient funds are available in any year to make full payments to all qualifying counties and local governments, such counties and local governments shall receive a pro rata share of the moneys available.
- (d) The payment amount shall be based on the average amount of actual taxes paid on the property for the 3 years preceding acquisition. Applications for payment in lieu of taxes shall be made no later than January 31 of the year following acquisition. No payment in lieu of taxes shall be made for properties which were exempt from ad valorem taxation for the year immediately preceding acquisition.

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- (e) If property which was subject to ad valorem taxation was acquired by a tax-exempt entity for ultimate conveyance to the state under this chapter, payment in lieu of taxes shall be made for such property based upon the average amount of taxes paid on the property for the 3 years prior to its being removed from the tax rolls. The department shall certify to the Department of Revenue those properties that may be eligible under this provision. Once eligibility has been established:
- 1. For a county or local government that has a population of 150,000 or more residents, that county or local government shall receive 10 consecutive annual payments for each tax loss.
- 2. For a county or local government that has a population less than 150,000 residents, that county or local government shall continually receive annual payments for each tax loss, until that county or local government has a population of 150,000 or more residents. However, that county or local government shall receive a minimum of 10 consecutive annual payments for each tax loss.
- 3. No further eligibility determination shall be made during that period.

  , that county or local government shall receive 10 consecutive annual payments for each tax loss, and no further eligibility determination shall be made during that period.
- (f) Payment in lieu of taxes pursuant to this subsection shall be made annually to qualifying counties and local governments after certification by the Department of Revenue that the amounts applied for are reasonably appropriate, based on the amount of actual taxes paid on the eligible property.

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With the assistance of the local government requesting payment in lieu of taxes, the state agency that acquired the land is responsible for preparing and submitting application requests for payment to the Department of Revenue for certification.

(g) If the board of trustees conveys to a local government title to any land owned by the board, any payments in lieu of taxes on the land made to the local government shall be discontinued as of the date of the conveyance.

- For the purposes of this subsection, "local government" includes municipalities, the county school board, mosquito control districts, and any other local government entity which levies ad valorem taxes, with the exception of a water management district.
- (13) Moneys credited to the fund each year which are not used for management, maintenance, or capital improvements pursuant to subsection (11); for payment in lieu of taxes pursuant to subsection (12); or for the purposes of subsection (5), shall be available for the acquisition of land pursuant to this section.
- (14) The board of trustees may adopt rules to further define the categories of land for acquisition under this chapter.
- (15) Within 90 days after receiving a certified letter from the owner of a property on the Conservation and Recreation Lands list or the priority list established pursuant to s. 259.105 objecting to the property being included in an acquisition project, where such property is a project or part of

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a project which has not been listed for purchase in the current year's land acquisition work plan, the board of trustees shall delete the property from the list or from the boundary of an acquisition project on the list.

Section 11. Section 259.035, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.035 Acquisition and Restoration Council.--

- (1) There is created the Acquisition and Restoration Council.
- (a) The council shall be composed of nine voting members, two four of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture, and one appointed by the. These four appointees shall be from scientific disciplines related to agriculture, land, water, or environmental sciences. They shall serve 4-year terms, except that, initially, to provide for staggered terms, two of the appointees shall serve 2-year terms. All subsequent appointments shall be for 4-year terms. No appointee shall serve more than 6 years. The Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture, or the may at any time fill a vacancy for their respective appointment for the unexpired term of a member appointed under this paragraph.
- (b) The five remaining appointees shall be composed of the Secretary of Environmental Protection, the director of the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the executive director of the , the director of the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State, and the secretary of the Department of Community Affairs, or their respective designees.

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- (c) The Governor shall appoint the chair of the council, and a vice chair shall be elected from among the members.
- (d) The council shall hold periodic meetings at the request of the chair.
- (e) The Department of Environmental Protection shall provide primary staff support to the council and shall ensure that council meetings are electronically recorded. Such recording shall be preserved pursuant to chapters 119 and 257.
- (f) The board of trustees has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this section.
- (2) The four <u>appointed</u> members of the council <u>appointed by</u> the Governor shall receive \$75 per day while engaged in the business of the council, as well as <u>reimbursement for</u> expenses and per diem <u>for travel to attend council meetings</u>, <u>including</u> attendance at meetings, as allowed state officers and employees while in the performance of their duties, pursuant to s. 112.061.
- (3) The council shall provide assistance to the board of trustees in reviewing the recommendations and plans for state-owned lands required under ss. 253.034 and 259.032. The council shall, in reviewing such recommendations and plans, consider the optimization of multiple-use and conservation strategies to accomplish the provisions funded pursuant to ss. 259.101(3)(a) and 259.105(3)(b).
- (4) The council may use existing rules adopted by the board of trustees, until it develops and recommends amendments to those rules, to competitively evaluate, select, and rank

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projects eligible for the Conservation and Recreation Lands list pursuant to ss. 259.032(3) and 259.101(4) and, beginning no later than May 1, 2001, for Florida Forever funds pursuant to s. 259.105(3)(b). In developing or amending the rules, the council shall give weight to the criteria included in s. 259.105(10). The board of trustees shall review the recommendations and shall adopt rules necessary to administer this section.

- (5) An affirmative vote of five members of the council is required in order to change a project boundary or to place a proposed project on a list developed pursuant to subsection (4). Any member of the council who by family or a business relationship has a connection with all or a portion of any proposed project shall declare the interest before voting on its inclusion on a list.
- (6) The proposal for a project pursuant to this section or s. 259.105(3)(b) may be implemented only if adopted by the council and approved by the board of trustees. The council shall consider and evaluate in writing the merits and demerits of each project that is proposed for Conservation and Recreation Lands, Florida Preservation 2000, or Florida Forever funding and shall ensure that each proposed project will meet a stated public purpose for the restoration, conservation, or preservation of environmentally sensitive lands and water areas or for providing outdoor recreational opportunities. The council also shall determine whether the project conforms, where applicable, with the comprehensive plan developed pursuant to s. 259.04(1)(a), the comprehensive multipurpose outdoor recreation plan developed pursuant to s. 375.021, the state lands management plan adopted

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pursuant to s. 253.03(7), the water resources work plans developed pursuant to s. 373.199, and the provisions of s. 259.032, s. 259.101, or s. 259.105, whichever is applicable. Section 12. Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, is amended

Section 12. Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.036 Management review teams. --

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- (1) To determine whether conservation, preservation, and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired, and in accordance with a land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, and achieving the goals of the land management plans provided in s. 353.034(5), the board of trustees, acting through the Department of Environmental Protection, shall cause periodic management reviews to be conducted as follows:
- (a) The department shall establish a regional land management review team composed of the following members:
- 1. One individual who is from the county or local community in which the parcel or project is located and who is selected by the county commission in the county which is most impacted by the acquisition.
- 2. One individual from the Division of Recreation and Parks of the department or one individual from the department's district office in which the parcel is located.
- 3. One individual from the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
  - 4. One individual from the .

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- 5. One individual from the department's district office in which the parcel is located.
  - 6. A private land manager selected by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services mutually agreeable to the state agency representatives.
  - 7. A member of the local soil and water conservation district board of supervisors.
    - 8. A member of a conservation organization.
    - 9. A private land manager selected by the .
  - (b) The staff of the Division of State Lands shall act as the review team coordinator for the purposes of establishing schedules for the reviews and other staff functions. The Legislature shall appropriate funds necessary to implement land management review team functions.
  - management areas prior to the date the manager is required to submit a 10-year land management plan update. For management areas that exceed 1,000 acres in size, the Division of State Lands shall schedule a land management review at least every 5 years. A copy of the review shall be provided to the manager, the Division of State Lands, and the Acquisition and Restoration Council. The manager shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review team in finalizing the required 10-year update of its management plan.
  - (3) In conducting a review, the land management review team shall evaluate the extent to which the existing management plan provides sufficient protection to threatened or endangered species, unique or important natural or physical features,

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geological or hydrological functions, or archaeological features. The review shall also evaluate the extent to which the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and the degree to which actual management practices, including public access, are in compliance with the adopted management plan.

- (4) In the event a land management plan has not been adopted within the timeframes specified in s. 259.032(10), the department may direct a management review of the property, to be conducted by the land management review team. The review shall consider the extent to which the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and the degree to which actual management practices are in compliance with the management policy statement and management prospectus for that property.
- (5) If the land management review team determines that reviewed lands are not being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired or in compliance with the adopted land management plan, management policy statement, or management prospectus, or if the managing agency fails to address the review findings in the updated management plan, the department shall provide the review findings to the board, and the managing agency must report to the board its reasons for managing the lands as it has.
- (6) No later than the second board meeting in October of each year, the department shall report the annual review findings of its land management review team.

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Section 13. Section 259.037, Florida Stautes, is amended to read.

259.037 Land Management Uniform Accounting Council .--

- The Land Management Uniform Accounting Council is created within the Department of Environmental Protection and shall consist of the director of the Division of State Lands, the director of the Division of Recreation and Parks, the director of the Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas, and the director of the Office of Greenways and Trails of the Department of Environmental Protection; the director of the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; the executive director of the ; and the director of the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State, or their respective designees. Each state agency represented on the council shall have one vote. The chair of the council shall rotate annually in the foregoing order of state agencies. The agency of the representative serving as chair of the council shall provide staff support for the council. The Division of State Lands shall serve as the recipient of and repository for the council's documents. The council shall meet at the request of the chair.
- (2) The Auditor General and the director of the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, or their designees, shall advise the council to ensure that appropriate accounting procedures are utilized and that a uniform method of collecting and reporting accurate costs of land management activities are created and can be used by all agencies.

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- (3) (a) All land management activities and costs must be assigned to a specific category, and any single activity or cost may not be assigned to more than one category. Administrative costs, such as planning or training, shall be segregated from other management activities. Specific management activities and costs must initially be grouped, at a minimum, within the following categories:
  - 1. (a) Resource management.
  - 2.<del>(b)</del> Administration.

- 3.<del>(c)</del> New facility construction.
- $\frac{4.(d)}{}$  Facility maintenance.

Upon adoption of the initial list of land management categories by the council, agencies assigned to manage conservation or recreation lands shall, on July 1, 2000, begin to account for land management costs in accordance with the category to which an expenditure is assigned.

- (b) Each reporting agency shall also:
- a. Include a report of the available public use options for each tract of state land and the total management cost for public access and public use and the cost associated with each use option.
- b. List the acres of land requiring minimal management effort, moderate management effort, and significant management effort. For each category they shall include the amount of funds requested, the amount of funds received, and the amount of funds expended for land management. The report shall also include a

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description of planned management activities and accomplished land management activities.

- c. List acres managed and cost of management for each tract by natural community delineation, based on the natural community category, the natural community group, and the natural community type pursuant to s. 253.0325(2).
- d. List acres managed, cost of management, and lead manager for state lands tracts for which secondary management activities were provided.
- (4) The council shall report agencies' expenditures pursuant to the adopted categories to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives annually, beginning July 1, 2001. The council shall also provide this report to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for inclusion in its annual report required pursuant to s. 259.105.
- (5) Should the council determine that the list of land management categories needs to be revised, it shall meet upon the call of the chair.
- Section 14. Subsections (1), (2), (3) and (7) of section 259.041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- (1) Neither the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund nor its duly authorized agent shall commit the state, through any instrument of negotiated contract or agreement for purchase, to the purchase of lands with or without appurtenances unless the provisions of this section have been fully complied with. Except for the requirements of subsections (3), (7), (14), and (15), the board of trustees may waive any requirements of this section, may waive any rules

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adopted pursuant to this section, notwithstanding chapter 120, or may substitute other reasonably prudent procedures, provided the public's interest is reasonably protected. The title to lands acquired pursuant to this section shall vest in the board of trustees as provided in s. 253.03(1), unless otherwise provided by law, and all such titled lands shall be administered pursuant to the provisions of s. 253.03.

- (2) The board of trustees has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this section, including rules governing the terms and conditions of land purchases. Such rules shall address with specificity, but not be limited to:
- (a) The procedures to be followed in the acquisition process, including selection of appraisers, surveyors, title agents and closing agents, and the content of appraisal reports.
- (b) The determination of the value of parcels which the state has an interest to acquire.
- (c) Special requirements when multiple landowners are involved in an acquisition.
- (d) Requirements for obtaining written option agreements so that the interests of the state are fully protected.
- (e) Special requirements when multiple purchasers are involved in an acquisition.
- (3) No agreement to acquire real property for the purposes described in this chapter, chapter 260, or chapter 375, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, may bind the state unless and until the agreement has been reviewed and approved by the Department of Environmental Protection as complying with the

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requirements of this section and any rules adopted pursuant to this section. When the state is a party to a joint acquisition in which another entity is contributing to the agreed contract price, the state contribution shall not exceed the difference between the appraised value, as determined by the state, and the sum of the contributions of the other parties. Where any of the following conditions exist, the agreement shall be submitted to and approved by the board of trustees:

- (a) The purchase price agreed to by the seller exceeds the value as established pursuant to the rules of the board of trustees;
- (b) The contract price agreed to by the seller and acquiring agency exceeds \$1 million;
- (c) The acquisition is the initial purchase in a project; or
- (d) Other conditions that the board of trustees may adopt by rule. Such conditions may include, but not be limited to, projects where title to the property being acquired is considered nonmarketable or is encumbered in such a way as to significantly affect its management.

Where approval of the board of trustees is required pursuant to this subsection, the acquiring agency must provide a justification as to why it is in the public's interest to acquire the parcel or project. Approval of the board of trustees also is required for projects the department recommends acquiring pursuant to subsections (14) and (15). Review and approval of agreements for acquisitions for Florida Greenways

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and Trails Program properties pursuant to chapter 260 may be waived by the department in any contract with nonprofit corporations that have agreed to assist the department with this program. Where the contribution of the acquiring agency exceeds \$100 million, the agreement shall be submitted to and approved by the Legislative Budget Commission.

- applicable, the Department of Environmental Protection, of any agreement to purchase land pursuant to this chapter, chapter 260, or chapter 375, and prior to negotiations with the parcel owner to purchase any other land, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, an appraisal of the parcel shall be required as follows:(a) The board of trustees shall adopt by rule the method for determining the value of parcels sought to be acquired by state agencies pursuant to this section.
- (b) Each parcel to be acquired shall have at least one appraisal. Two appraisals are required when the estimated value of the parcel exceeds \$500,000. When two appraisals are required, one appraiser shall be selected by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. When However, when both appraisals exceed \$500,000 and differ significantly, a third appraisal shall may be obtained , with the Department of Financial Services selecting the third appraiser. Two appraisals shall be considered to differ significantly if the higher of the two values exceeds 120% of the lower value. When the estimated value of the parcel exceeds \$500,000, the review appraiser shall be selected by the Department of Financial Services. To provide for payment by the agency selecting the second and third

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appraiser and review appraiser, as required by this section, the Department of Environmental Protection shall enter into interagency agreements with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and Department of the Financial Services, whereby funds will be transferred to those agencies for that purpose upon direction of the selecting agency. When a parcel is estimated to be worth \$100,000 or less and the director of the Division of State Lands finds that the cost of obtaining an outside appraisal is not justified, an appraisal prepared by the division may be used. The state is not required to appraise the value of lands and appurtenances that are being donated to the state.

- (c) Appraisal fees and associated costs shall be paid by the agency proposing the acquisition. The board of trustees shall approve qualified fee appraisal organizations. All appraisals used for the acquisition of lands pursuant to this section shall be prepared by a member of an approved appraisal organization or by a state-certified appraiser who meets the standards and criteria established in rule by the board of trustees. Each fee appraiser selected to appraise a particular parcel shall, prior to contracting with the agency or a participant in a multiparty agreement, submit to that agency or participant an affidavit substantiating that he or she has no vested or fiduciary interest in such parcel.
- (d) The fee appraiser and the review appraiser for the agency shall not act in any way that may be construed as negotiating with the property owner.

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Generally, appraisal reports are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), for use by the agency and the board of trustees, until an option contract is executed or, if no option contract is executed, until 2 weeks before a contract or agreement for purchase is considered for approval by the board of trustees. However, the department has the authority, at its discretion, to disclose appraisal reports to private landowners during negotiations for acquisitions using alternatives to fee simple techniques, if the department determines that disclosure of such reports will bring the proposed acquisition to closure. The Division of State Lands may also disclose appraisal information to public agencies or nonprofit organizations that agree to maintain the confidentiality of the reports or information when joint acquisition of property is contemplated, or when a public agency or nonprofit organization enters into a written multiparty agreement with the division to purchase and hold property for subsequent resale to the division. In addition, the division may use, as its own, appraisals obtained by a public agency or nonprofit organization, provided the appraiser is selected from the division's list of appraisers and the appraisal is reviewed and approved by the division. For the purposes of this chapter, "nonprofit organization" means an organization whose purposes include the preservation of natural resources, and which is exempt from federal income tax under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The agency may release an appraisal report when the passage of time has rendered the conclusions of

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value in the report invalid or when the acquiring agency has terminated negotiations.

(f) The Division of State Lands may use, as its own, appraisals obtained by a public agency or nonprofit organization, provided that the appraiser is selected from the division's list of appraisers and the appraisal is reviewed and approved by the division. For the purposes of this chapter, the term "nonprofit organization" means an organization whose purposes include the preservation of natural resources and which is exempt from federal income tax under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, on behalf of the board and before the appraisal of parcels approved for purchase under this chapter, the Secretary of Environmental Protection or the director of the Division of State Lands may enter into option contracts to buy such parcels. Any such option contract shall state that the final purchase price is subject to approval by the board or, when applicable, the secretary and that the final purchase price may not exceed the maximum offer allowed by law. Any such option contract shall not be presented to the board for final purchase price approval without prior appropriation from the Legislature. The consideration for such an option may not exceed \$1,000 or 0.01 percent of the estimate by the department of the value of the parcel, whichever amount is greater.

Section 15. Section 259.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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259.105 The Florida Forever Act.--

- (1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Forever  $\operatorname{Act}$ ."
  - (2) (a) The Legislature finds and declares that:
- 1. The <u>land acquisition programs have</u> Preservation 2000 program provided tremendous financial resources for purchasing environmentally significant lands to protect those lands from imminent development <u>or further alteration</u>, thereby assuring present and future generations access to important <u>waterways</u>, open spaces and recreation and conservation lands.
- 2. The continued alteration and development of Florida's natural areas to accommodate the state's rapidly growing population have contributed to the degradation of water resources, the fragmentation and destruction of wildlife habitats including habitat necessary to support, recover and sustain imperiled species, the loss of outdoor recreation space, and the diminishment of wetlands, forests, agriculture, working water fronts, coastal open space and public beaches.
- 3. The potential development of Florida's remaining natural areas and escalation of land values require a continuation of government efforts to restore, enhance and manage, bring under public protection the state's essential ecological functions, or acquire lands and water areas to preserve the state's invaluable quality of life.
- 4. It is essential to protect the state's ecosystems by promoting a more efficient use of land, ensuring opportunities for viable agricultural activities on working lands, and to promote vital rural and urban communities which support and

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produce development patterns consistent with natural resource protection.

- 5. 4. Florida's groundwater, surface waters, and springs are under tremendous pressure due to population growth and economic expansion and require special protection and restoration efforts, including the protection of upland aquifer recharge system and springsheds. To ensure that sufficient quantities of water are available to meet the current and future needs of the natural systems, including springs and springsheds that provide vital recharge to aquifer systems, and citizens of the state, and assist in achieving the planning goals of the department and the water management districts, water resource development projects, and alternative water supplies as defined in s.373.109 on public lands, where compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for the lands, are appropriate.
- 6. 5. The needs of urban, suburban and small communities in Florida for high-quality outdoor recreational opportunities, greenways, trails, and open space have not been fully met by previous acquisition programs. Through such programs as the Florida Communities Trust and the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program, the state shall place additional emphasis on acquiring, protecting, preserving, and restoring open space, ecological greenways, and recreation properties within urban areas where pristine natural communities or water bodies no longer exist because of the proximity of developed property.
- 7.6. Many of Florida's unique ecosystems, such as the Florida Everglades, are facing ecological collapse due to

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Florida's burgeoning population growth and other economic activities. To preserve, restore, enhance, and manage these valuable ecosystems for future generations and as habitat for Florida's imperiled species, essential parcels of land must be acquired, restored, enhanced, and managed in the long term to facilitate ecosystem restoration.

- 8.7. Access to public lands to support a broad range of recreation, including but not limited to, outdoor recreational opportunities and the development of necessary infrastructure, where compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands, promotes an appreciation for Florida's natural assets and improves the quality of life.
- 9. 8. Acquisition of lands, in fee simple or less-than-fee in any lesser interest, should be based on a comprehensive science based assessment of Florida's natural resources, including imperiled species habitat, developed pursuant to s. 259.032(3) that targets essential conservation lands by prioritizing all current and future acquisitions based on a uniform set of data and planned so as to protect, restore, enhance, and manage the integrity and function of ecological systems and working landscapes, including agriculture, and provide multiple benefits, including preservation, enhancement, restoration and management of fish and wildlife habitat, recreation space for urban and as well as rural areas, and water recharge, flow and storage.
- 10. The Legislature recognizes that the state must play a major role in the recovery and management of its imperiled species through the acquisition, restoration, enhancement and

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management of ecosystems to support the major life functions of imperiled species. It is the intent of the Legislature to support local, state and federal programs that provide private land owners meaningful incentives to restore and manage such habitat on private lands. It is further the intent of the Legislature that public lands, both existing and to be acquired in any fashion, be restored, enhanced and managed as habitat for imperiled species as recommended by the Florida without unnecessarily restricting the use of such land for recreational and water supply uses.

11. 9. The state has embraced performance-based program budgeting as a tool to evaluate the achievements of publicly funded agencies, build in accountability, and reward those agencies which are able to consistently achieve quantifiable goals. While previous and existing state environmental programs have achieved varying degrees of success, few of these programs can be evaluated as to the extent of their achievements, primarily because performance measures, standards, outcomes, and goals were not established at the outset. Therefore, the Florida Forever program shall be developed and implemented in the context of measurable state goals and objectives, which shall include restoration, enhancement and management of imperiled species habitat.

12. 10. It is the intent of the Legislature to change the focus and direction of the state's major land acquisition programs and to extend funding and bonding capabilities, so that future generations may enjoy the natural resources of Florida, and:

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- <u>i.</u> the state fulfills it role in the recovery and management of Florida's imperiled species;
- ii. provides ample access to Florida waterways and;iii. enhances adequate water supply to meet the needs of
- 2146 <u>natural systems as well as Florida citizens"</u>

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- The Legislature recognizes that acquisition is only (b) one way to achieve the aforementioned goals and encourages the development of creative partnerships between governmental agencies and private landowners. <del>Land</del>Such partnerships shall include the use of environmental mitigation or conservation measures, including funds and the relocation of imperiled species, from public or private projects as a means to restore, enhance, restock and manage publicly-owned lands as a natural resource, including as habitat for imperiled species. In addition, land protection agreements, rural land stewardship agreements, sector planning, mitigation, and similar tools should be used, where appropriate, to bring environmentally sensitive tracts under an acceptable level of protection at a lower financial cost to the public, and to provide private landowners with the opportunity to enjoy and benefit from their property.
- (c) Public agencies or other entities that receive funds under this section shall are encouraged to better coordinate their expenditures with the so that project acquisitions, when combined with acquisitions under Florida Forever, Preservation 2000, Save Our Rivers, the Florida Communities Trust, imperiled species management plans and programs, and other public land acquisition programs, will form more complete patterns of

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protection for <u>and management of</u> natural areas, <u>habitat for</u>

Florida's <u>wildlife including imperiled species</u>, <u>ecological</u>

greenways, and functioning ecosystems, to better accomplish the intent of this section.

- (d) A long-term financial commitment to <u>restoring</u>, enhancing and managing Florida's public lands, including the restoration, enhancement, restocking and management of public lands for the recovery and management of imperiled species, where appropriate, must accompany any new land acquisition program to ensure that the natural resource values of such lands are restored, enhanced, managed, and protected, that the public has the opportunity to enjoy the lands to their fullest potential, and that the state achieves the full benefits of its investment of public dollars. Innovative strategies such as public-private partnerships and inter-agency planning and sharing of resources shall be used to achieve the state's management goals.
- (e) With limited dollars available for restoration, enhancement, management, and acquisition of land and water areas and for providing long-term management and capital improvements, a competitive selection process shall can select those projects best able to meet the goals of Florida Forever and maximize the efficient use of the program's funding.
- (f) To ensure success and provide accountability to the citizens of this state, it is the intent of the Legislature that any <u>cash</u> bond <u>or other</u> proceeds used pursuant to this section be used to implement the goals and objectives <u>based on a</u> comprehensive science based assessment of Florida's natural

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resources developed pursuant to s. 259.032(3) that targets essential conservation lands by prioritizing all current and future acquisitions based on a uniform set of data established by rules developed and adopted by the Acquisition and Restoration Council, approved by the board of trustee, and submitted to the legislature recommended by the Florida Forever Advisory Council as approved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund and the Legislature.

As it has with previous land acquisition programs, the Legislature recognizes the desires of the citizens of this state to prosper through economic development and to restore, enhance, manage and preserve the natural areas and recreational open space of Florida. The Legislature further recognizes the urgency of restoring, enhancing and managing the natural functions, including wildlife and imperiled species habitat functions, of public lands or water bodies before they are degraded to a point where recovery may never occur, yet acknowledges the difficulty of ensuring adequate funding for restoration, enhancement, and management efforts in light of other equally critical financial needs of the state. It is the Legislature's desire and intent to fund the implementation of this section and to do so in a fiscally responsible manner, by issuing bonds to be repaid with documentary stamp tax revenue or other revenue sources, and by establishing programs to accept and use mitigation and conservation measures from public or private projects that may be required under other state or federal programs to restore, enhance, manage and preserve public lands as, among other

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things, imperiled species habitat and for the recovery or reestablishment of imperiled species.

- (h) The Legislature further recognizes the important role that many of our state and federal military installations contribute to protecting and preserving Florida's natural resources as well as our economic prosperity. Where the state's land conservation plans overlap with the military's need to protect lands, waters, and habitat to ensure the sustainability of military missions, it is the Legislature's intent that agencies receiving funds under this program cooperate with our military partners to protect and buffer military installations and military airspace, by:
- 1. Protecting, acquiring, restoring and managing habitat on nonmilitary land for any species found on military land that is designated as threatened or endangered, or is a candidate for such designation under the Endangered Species Act, commission rules or any Florida statute, or for which has a management plan approved by the commission;
- 2. Providing the military with technical assistance to restore, enhance and manage military land as habitat for imperiled species or species designated as threatened or endangered, or a candidate for such designation and for the recovery or reestablishment of such species.
- 3.2. Protecting areas underlying low-level military air corridors or operating areas; and
- $\underline{4.\ 3.}$  Protecting areas identified as clear zones, accident potential zones, and air installation compatible use buffer zones delineated by our military partners.

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- (3) Less the costs of issuing and the costs of funding reserve accounts and other costs associated with bonds, the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to this section, or cash payments shall be deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund created by s. 259.1051. The proceeds shall be distributed by the Department of Environmental Protection in the following manner:
- (a) Thirty-five percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition of lands and capital project expenditures necessary to implement the water management districts' priority lists developed pursuant to s. 373.199. The funds are to be distributed to the water management districts as provided in subsection (11). A minimum of 50 percent of the total funds provided over the life of the Florida Forever program pursuant to this paragraph shall be used for the acquisition of lands.
- (b) Thirty-five percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition, restoration, enhancement, and management of lands and for capital project expenditures described in this section and developed in a criteria based, multi-tiered, goal-oriented program. Of the proceeds distributed pursuant to this paragraph, it is the intent of the Legislature that an increased priority be given to those acquisitions which achieve a combination of conservation goals, including protecting Florida's water resources and, providing support for developing alternative water supplies as defined in s.373.109, natural groundwater recharge, and the restoration, enhancement, restocking and management of habitat for imperiled species. At a minimum, 3 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds

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allocated pursuant to this paragraph, shall be spent on capital project expenditures identified during the time of acquisition that meets land management planning activities necessary for public access Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph.

Twenty-two percent to the Department of Community Affairs for use by the Florida Communities Trust for the purposes of part III of chapter 380, as described and limited by this subsection, and grants to local governments or nonprofit environmental organizations that are tax-exempt under s. 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code for the acquisition of community-based projects, urban open spaces, parks, habitat for imperiled species, and greenways to implement local government comprehensive plans. From funds available to the trust and used for land acquisition, 75 percent shall be matched by local governments on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The Legislature intends that the Florida Communities Trust emphasize funding projects in low-income or otherwise disadvantaged communities. At least 30 percent of the total allocation provided to the trust shall be used in Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, but one-half of that amount shall be used in localities in which the project site is located in built-up commercial, industrial, or mixed-use areas and functions to intersperse open spaces within congested urban core areas. From funds allocated to the trust, no less than 5 percent shall be used to acquire lands for recreational trail systems, provided that in the event these funds are not needed for such projects, they will be available for other trust projects. Local

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governments may use federal grants or loans, private donations, or environmental mitigation funds, including environmental mitigation funds required pursuant to s. 338.250, for any part or all of any local match required for acquisitions funded through the Florida Communities Trust. Any lands purchased by nonprofit organizations using funds allocated under this paragraph must provide for such lands to remain permanently in public use through a reversion of title to local or state government, conservation easement, or other appropriate mechanism. Projects funded with funds allocated to the Trust shall be selected in a competitive process measured against criteria adopted in rule by the Trust. Lands acquired using funds allocated under this paragraph which include imperiled species habitat must be restored and managed to advance the goal and objectives of Fish and Wildlife Commission approved management plans or in accordance with technical assistance provided by the .

- (d) Two percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for grants pursuant to s. 375.075. Lands acquired using funds allocated under this paragraph which include imperiled species habitat must be restored and managed to advance the goal and objectives of Fish and Wildlife Commission approved management plans or in accordance with technical assistance provided by the .
- (e) One and five-tenths percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the purchase of inholdings and additions to state parks and for capital project expenditures including land restoration, enhancement and management costs,

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as described in this section. At a minimum, 1 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph, shall be spent on capital project expenditures identified during the time of acquisition that meets land management planning activities necessary for public access Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "state park" means any real property in the state which is under the jurisdiction of the Division of Recreation and Parks of the department, or which may come under its jurisdiction. Lands acquired using funds allocated under this paragraph which include imperiled species habitat must be restored and managed to advance the goals and objectives of Fish and Wildlife Commission approved management plans or in accordance with technical assistance provided by the .

(f) One and five-tenths percent to the Division of
Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
to fund easements pursuant to s. 570.71(2)(a) and (b), the
acquisition of state forest inholdings and additions pursuant to
s. 589.07, the implementation of reforestation plans or
sustainable forestry management practices, and for capital
project expenditures, including land restoration, enhancement
and management costs, as described in this section. At a
minimum, 1 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds
allocated for the acquisition of inholdings and additions
pursuant to this paragraph, shall be spent on capital project
expenditures identified during the time of acquisition that
meets land management planning activities necessary for public

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<u>access</u> Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph.

- (g) One and five-tenths percent to the to fund the acquisition of, restoration, enhancement and management of lands, imperiled species habitat, inholdings, and additions to lands managed by the commission which are important to the conservation of fish and wildlife and for capital project expenditures as described in this section. Beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2010, up to 50 percent of the total funds provided pursuant to this paragraph shall be used to protect, manage, or restore habitat for native or imperiled species. At a minimum, 1 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph, shall be spent on capital project expenditures identified during the time of acquisition that meets land management planning activities necessary for public access Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph.
- (h) One and five-tenths percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the Florida Greenways and Trails Program, to acquire greenways and trails or greenways and trail systems pursuant to chapter 260, including, but not limited to, abandoned railroad rights-of-way and the Florida National Scenic Trail and for capital project expenditures , including land restoration, enhancement and management costs, as described in this section. Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph.
- (i) It is the intent of the Legislature that proceeds of Florida Forever bonds distributed under this section shall be

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expended in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner. An agency that receives proceeds from Florida Forever bonds under this section may not maintain a balance of unencumbered funds in its Florida Forever subaccount beyond 3 fiscal years from the date of deposit of funds from each bond issue. Any funds that have not been expended or encumbered after 3 fiscal years from the date of deposit shall be distributed by the Legislature at its next regular session for use in the Florida Forever program.

For the purposes of paragraphs (d), (e), (f), and (q), the agencies which receive the funds shall develop their individual acquisition or restoration lists based on a comprehensive science based assessment of Florida's natural resources developed pursuant to s. 259.032(3) that targets essential conservation lands by prioritizing all current and future acquisitions based on a uniform set of data established by rules developed and adopted by the Acquisition and Restoration Council, approved by the board of trustee, and submitted to the legislature. Proposed additions may be acquired if they are identified within the original project boundary, the management plan required pursuant to s. 253.034(5), or the management prospectus required pursuant to s. 259.032(9)(d), or contains imperiled species habitat the acquisition, restoration or management plans. Proposed additions not meeting the requirements of this paragraph shall be submitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for approval. The council may only approve the proposed addition if it meets two or more of the following criteria: serves as a link or corridor to other publicly owned property; enhances the protection or management

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of the property; would add a desirable resource to the property, including the provision of habitat for imperiled species; would create a more manageable boundary configuration; has a high resource value that otherwise would be unprotected or that may be enhanced through the implementation or imperiled species management plans; or can be acquired at less than fair market value.

- (4) It is the intent of the Legislature that projects or acquisitions funded pursuant to paragraphs (3)(a) and (b) contribute to the achievement of the following goals <u>based on a comprehensive science based assessment of Florida's natural resources developed pursuant to s. 259.032(3) that targets essential conservation lands by prioritizing all current and future acquisitions based on a uniform set of data established by rules developed and adopted by the Acquisition and Restoration Council, approved by the board of trustee, and submitted to the legislature:</u>
- (a) Enhance the coordination and completion of land acquisition projects, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres acquired, restored, enhanced and managed through the state's land acquisition programs that contribute to enhancement of essential natural resources, ecosystem service parcels, and connecting linkage corridors as identified and developed by the best available scientific analysis the completion of Florida Preservation 2000 projects or projects begun before Preservation 2000;

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- 2. The number of acres protected, restored, enhanced and
  2448 managed through the use of alternatives to fee simple
  2449 acquisition; or
  - 3. The number of shared acquisition projects among Florida Forever funding partners and partners with other funding sources, including local governments, private entities, and the Federal Government.
  - (b) Increase the protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community, and landscape levels, as measured by:
  - 1. The number of acres acquired of significant strategic habitat conservation areas;
  - 2. The number of acres acquired of highest priority conservation areas for Florida's rarest species;
  - 3. The number of acres acquired of significant landscapes, landscape linkages, and conservation corridors, giving priority to completing linkages;
  - 4. The number of acres acquired of underrepresented native ecosystems;
  - 5. The number of landscape-sized protection areas of at least 50,000 acres that exhibit a mosaic of predominantly intact or restorable natural communities established through new acquisition projects or augmentations to previous projects; or
  - 6. The percentage increase in the number of occurrences of endangered species, threatened species, or species of special concern on publicly managed conservation areas.
  - 7. The number of acres which represent actual or potential imperiled species habitat; and,

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- 8. The number of acres which are subject to a management plan to restore, enhance restock and manage imperiled species habitat, and the number of acres of imperiled species habitat restored, restocked or enhanced, and are managed that advance the goals and objectives of commission approved management plans.
- (c) Protect, restore, and maintain the quality and natural functions of land, water, and wetland systems of the state, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres of publicly owned land identified as needing restoration, enhancement and management, acres undergoing restoration or enhancement, and acres with restoration or enhancement activities completed, and acres managed to maintain such restored or enhanced conditions;
- 2. The percentage of water segments that fully meet, partially meet, or do not meet their designated uses as reported in the Department of Environmental Protection's State Water Quality Assessment 305(b) Report;
- 3. The percentage completion of targeted capital improvements in surface water improvement and management plans created under s. 373.453(2), regional or master stormwater management system plans, or other adopted restoration plans;
- 4. The number of acres acquired that protect natural floodplain functions;
- 5. The number of acres acquired that protect surface waters of the state;

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- 2501 The number of acres identified for acquisition to minimize damage from flooding and the percentage of those acres acquired;, restored, enhanced and management;
  - 7. The number of acres acquired that protect fragile coastal resources;
  - The number of acres of functional wetland systems protected;
  - The percentage of miles of critically eroding beaches contiguous with public lands that are restored or protected from further erosion;
  - The percentage of public lakes and rivers in which invasive, nonnative aquatic plants are under maintenance control; or
  - The number of acres of public conservation lands in which upland invasive, exotic plants are under maintenance control.
  - The number of acres acquired, restored, enhanced or managed that serve as habitat for imperiled species which advance the goals and objectives of commission approved plans.
  - Ensure that sufficient quantities of water are available to meet the current and future needs of natural systems and the citizens of the state, as measured by:
  - The number of acres acquired which provide retention and storage of surface water in naturally occurring storage areas, such as lakes and wetlands, consistent with the maintenance of water resources or water supplies and consistent with district water supply plans;

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- 2. The quantity of water made available through the water resource development component of a district water supply plan for which a water management district is responsible; or
- 3. The number of acres acquired of groundwater recharge areas critical to springs, sinks, aquifers, other natural systems, or water supply.
- (e) Increase natural resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres acquired that are available for natural resource-based public recreation or education;
- 2. The miles of trails that are available for public recreation, giving priority to those that provide significant connections including those that will assist in completing the Florida National Scenic Trail; or
- 3. The number of new resource-based recreation facilities, by type, made available on public land.
- 4. The means in which support is provided for the development of alternative water supply projects as defined in s.373.109.
- (f) Preserve significant archaeological or historic sites, as measured by:
- 1. The increase in the number of and percentage of historic and archaeological properties listed in the Florida Master Site File or National Register of Historic Places which are protected or preserved for public use; or
- 2. The increase in the number and percentage of historic and archaeological properties that are in state ownership.

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- Increase the amount of forestland available for sustainable management of natural resources, including imperiled species, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres acquired that are available for sustainable forest management;
- The number of acres of state-owned forestland managed for economic return in accordance with current best management practices;
- The number of acres of forestland acquired that will serve to maintain natural groundwater recharge functions; or
- 4. The number of acres of forestland which serves as habitat or potential habitat for imperiled species and which advance the goals and objectives of commission approved management plans; or
  - 5. The percentage and number of acres identified for restoration actually restored by reforestation.
- (h) Increase the amount of open space available in urban areas, as measured by:
- The percentage of local governments that participate in land acquisition programs and acquire open space in urban cores; or
- The percentage and number of acres of purchases of open space within urban service areas.

2579 Florida Forever projects and acquisitions funded pursuant to 2580 paragraph (3)(c) shall be measured by goals developed by rule by the Florida Communities Trust Governing Board created in s. 380.504.

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- (5) (a) All lands acquired, restored, enhanced or managed pursuant to this section shall be managed for multiple-use purposes, where compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands. As used in this section, "multiple-use" includes, but is not limited to, outdoor recreational activities as described in ss. 253.034 and 259.032(9)(b), water resource development projects, imperiled species habitat restoration, enhancement, restocking and management, including actions which advance the goal and objectives of commission approved management plans, and sustainable forestry management.
- (b) Upon a decision by the entity in which title to lands acquired pursuant to this section has vested, such lands may be designated single use as defined in s.253.034(2)(b). Concurrence in such designation from the commission is required if all or a portion such land is habitat for imperiled species.
- (6) As provided in this section, a water resource or water supply development project may be allowed only if the following conditions are met: minimum flows and levels have been established for those waters, if any, which may reasonably be expected to experience significant harm to water resources as a result of the project; the project complies with all applicable permitting requirements; and the project is consistent with the regional water supply plan, if any, of the water management district and with relevant recovery or prevention strategies if required pursuant to s. 373.0421(2).

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- (7) (a) Beginning no later than July 1, 2001, and every year thereafter, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall accept applications from state agencies, local governments, nonprofit and for-profit organizations, private land trusts, and individuals for project proposals eligible for funding pursuant to paragraph (3) (b). The council shall evaluate the proposals received pursuant to this subsection to ensure that they meet at least one of the criteria under subsection (9).
- (b) Project applications shall contain, at a minimum, the following:
- 1. A minimum of two numeric performance measures that directly relate to the overall goals adopted by the council. Each performance measure shall include a baseline measurement, which is the current situation; a performance standard which the project sponsor anticipates the project will achieve; and the performance measurement itself, which should reflect the incremental improvements the project accomplishes towards achieving the performance standard. Projects that include imperiled species habitat shall include performance measures developed by or in coordination with the commission to restore, enhance, restock and manage such habitat and to advance the goals and objectives of commission approved management plans.
- 2. Proof that property owners within any proposed acquisition have been notified of their inclusion in the proposed project. Any property owner may request the removal of such property from further consideration by submitting a request to the project sponsor or the Acquisition and Restoration

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Council by certified mail. Upon receiving this request, the council shall delete the property from the proposed project; however, the board of trustees, at the time it votes to approve the proposed project lists pursuant to subsection (16), may add the property back on to the project lists if it determines by a super majority of its members that such property is critical to achieve the purposes of the project.

The title to lands acquired under this section shall vest in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, except that title to lands acquired by a water management district shall vest in the name of that district and lands acquired by a local government shall vest in the name of the purchasing local government. For lands acquired under this section by a local government which were designated as being acquired for conservation purposes and which are determined to be no longer needed for conservation purposes, the local government shall convey title to the land to the Board of Trustees. For lands acquired under this section by a water management district which were designated as being acquired for conservation purposes and which are determined to be no longer needed for conservation purposes in accordance with ss. 373.159 (6)(c), the water management district shall not dispose of the land until they afford an opportunity to the county in which the land is situated and the Board of Trustees to acquire the land. The county shall first be afforded the opportunity under the provisions of ss. 253.111. If the county declines to acquire the land in accord with those provisions, the land shall be offered to the Board of Trustees to acquire the land.

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- (8) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall develop a project list that shall represent those projects submitted pursuant to subsection (7).
- annual workplan that provides a priority ranking for recommend rules for adoption by the board of trustees to competitively evaluate, select, and rank projects eligible for Florida Forever funds pursuant to paragraph (3) (b) and for additions to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list pursuant to ss. 259.032 and 259.101(4). In developing the workplan these proposed rules, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall give weight to the following criteria:
- (a) The project meets multiple goals described in subsection (4).
- (b) The project is part of an ongoing governmental effort to restore, protect, <u>manage</u> or develop land areas or water resources.
- (c) The project enhances or facilitates <u>restoration</u>, <u>enhancement or management of properties already under public ownership.</u>
- (d) The project has significant archaeological or historic value.
- (e) The project includes the acquisition, restoration, enhancement, restocking or management of habitat for imperiled species, land designated by the commission as important for imperiled species recovery, or lands which advances the goal and objectives of commission approved management plans.

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- The project has funding sources that are identified and assured through at least the first 2 years of the project.
- (f)(g) The project contributes to the solution of water resource problems on a regional basis.
- (q) (h) The project has a significant portion of its land area in imminent danger of development, in imminent danger of losing its significant natural attributes or recreational open space, or in imminent danger of subdivision which would result in multiple ownership and make acquisition of the project costly or less likely to be accomplished.
- (h)(i) The project implements an element from a plan developed by an ecosystem management team, or advances the goals and objectives of commission approved management plans.
- $\frac{(i)}{(j)}$  The project is one of the components of the Everglades restoration effort.
- The project may be purchased at 80 percent of appraised value.
- $\frac{(k)}{(1)}$  The project may be acquired, in whole or in part, using tax incentives, mitigation funds or other revenues, and alternatives to fee simple, including but not limited to, purchase of development rights, hunting rights, agricultural or silvicultural rights, or mineral rights or obtaining conservation easements or flowage easements.
- $\frac{(1)}{(m)}$ The project is a joint acquisition, either among public agencies, nonprofit organizations, or private entities, or by a public-private partnership, including the use of public or private mitigation or conservation funding as provided in s. 259.105(2)(b).

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- increased priority to those projects for which matching <u>funds or mitigation or conservation funding from public or private projects</u> are available and to project elements previously identified on an acquisition list pursuant to this section that can be acquired at 80 percent or less of appraised value. The council shall also give increased priority to those projects where the state's land conservation plans overlap with the military's need to protect lands, water, and habitat to ensure the sustainability of military missions including:
- or managing habitat on nonmilitary land for any species found on military land that is designated as <u>imperiled</u>, threatened or endangered, or is a candidate for such designation under the Endangered Species Act—or, any Florida statute, or commission rule, or for which a management plan has been approved by the commission;
- (b) Protecting areas underlying low-level military air corridors or operating areas; and
- (c) Protecting areas identified as clear zones, accident potential zones, and air installation compatible use buffer zones delineated by our military partners, and for which federal or other funding is available to assist with the project.
- (11) For the purposes of funding projects pursuant to paragraph (3)(a), the Secretary of Environmental Protection shall ensure that each water management district receives the following percentage of funds annually:

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- (a) Thirty-five percent to the South Florida Water Management District, of which amount \$25 million for 2 years beginning in fiscal year 2000-2001 shall be transferred by the Department of Environmental Protection into the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund and shall be used exclusively to implement the comprehensive plan under s. 373.470.
- (b) Twenty-five percent to the Southwest Florida Water Management District.
- (c) Twenty-five percent to the St. Johns River Water Management District.
- (d) Seven and one-half percent to the Suwannee River Water Management District.
- (e) Seven and one-half percent to the Northwest Florida Water Management District.
- developing the list of projects for funding pursuant to paragraph (3)(a), that these funds not be used to abrogate the financial responsibility of those point and nonpoint sources that have contributed to the degradation of water or land areas. Therefore, an increased priority shall be given by the water management district governing boards to those projects that have secured a cost-sharing agreement allocating responsibility for the cleanup of point and nonpoint sources.
- (13) An affirmative vote of five members of the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall be required in order to place a proposed project on the list developed pursuant to subsection (8). Any member of the council who by family or a business relationship has a connection with any project proposed

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to be ranked shall declare such interest prior to voting for a project's inclusion on the list.

- (14) Each year that <u>cash disbursements or</u> bonds are to be issued pursuant to this section, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review the most current approved project list and shall, by the first board meeting in May, present to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for approval a listing of projects developed pursuant to subsection (8). The board of trustees may remove projects from the list developed pursuant to this subsection, but may not add projects or rearrange project rankings.
- (15) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall submit to the board of trustees, with its list of projects, a report that includes, but shall not be limited to, the following information for each project listed:
  - (a) The stated purpose for inclusion.
  - (b) Projected costs to achieve the project goals.
- (c) An interim management budget. which must include capital expenditure projects for imperiled species habitat restoration, enhancement and restocking.
- (d) Specific performance measures..., including performance measures for restoration, enhancement and management of imperiled species habitat.
  - (e) Plans for public access.
- (f) An identification of the essential parcel or parcels within the project without which the project cannot be properly managed.

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- (g) Where applicable, an identification of those projects or parcels within projects which should be acquired in fee simple or in less than fee simple.
- (h) An identification of those lands being purchased for conservation purposes-including imperiled species habitat.
- (i) A management policy statement for the project and a management prospectus pursuant to s. 259.032(9)(d) and for projects that include imperiled species habitat, a management plan with performance measures and implementation costs developed by or in coordination with the commission to restore, enhance, restock and manage such habitat and to advance the goals and objectives of commission approved management plans.
- . (j) An estimate of land value based on county tax assessed values.
  - (k) A map delineating project boundaries.
- (1) An assessment of the project's ecological value, outdoor recreational value, forest resources, wildlife resources <a href="including imperiled species habitat">including imperiled species habitat</a>, ownership pattern, utilization, and location.
- (m) A discussion of whether alternative uses are proposed for the property and what those uses are.
- (n) A designation of the management agency or agencies <u>+,</u> which shall include the commission for projects that contain any imperiled species habitat.
- (16) All proposals for projects pursuant to paragraph(3) (b) or subsection (20) shall be implemented only if adoptedby the Acquisition and Restoration Council and approved by the

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board of trustees. The council shall consider and evaluate in writing the merits and demerits of each project that is proposed for Florida Forever funding and each proposed addition to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list program. The council shall ensure that each proposed project will meet a stated public purpose for the restoration, conservation, or management and preservation of environmentally sensitive lands, specifically including imperiled species habitats and water areas or for providing outdoor recreational opportunities and that each proposed addition to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list will meet the public purposes under s. 259.032(3) and, when applicable, s. 259.101(4). The council also shall determine whether the project or addition conforms, where applicable, with the comprehensive plan developed pursuant to s. 259.04(1)(a), the comprehensive multipurpose outdoor recreation plan developed pursuant to s. 375.021, the state lands management plan adopted pursuant to s. 253.03(7), the water resources work plans developed pursuant to s. 373.199, commission approved management plans, and the provisions of this section.

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(a) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement
Trust Fund, or, in the case of water management district lands,
the owning water management district, may authorize the granting
of a lease, easement, or license for the use of certain lands
acquired pursuant to this section, for certain uses that are
determined by the appropriate board to be compatible with the
resource values of and management objectives for such lands.

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- (b) Any existing lease, easement, or license acquired for incidental public or private use on, under, or across any lands acquired pursuant to this section shall be presumed to be compatible with the purposes for which such lands were acquired.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), no such lease, easement, or license shall be entered into by the Department of Environmental Protection or other appropriate state agency if the granting of such lease, easement, or license would adversely affect the exclusion of the interest on any revenue bonds issued to fund the acquisition of the affected lands from gross income for federal income tax purposes, pursuant to Internal Revenue Service regulations.
- The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall recommend adoption of rules by the board of trustees necessary to implement the provisions of this section relating to: solicitation, scoring, selecting, and ranking of Florida Forever project proposals; disposing of or leasing lands or water areas selected for funding through the Florida Forever program; and the process of reviewing and recommending for approval or rejection the land restoration, enhancement, restocking and management plans associated with publicly owned properties. Rules promulgated pursuant to this subsection shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for review by the Legislature, no later than 30 days prior to the 2010 <del>2001</del> Regular Session and shall become effective only after legislative review. In its review, the Legislature may reject, modify, or take no action relative to such rules. The board of trustees shall conform such rules to

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changes made by the Legislature, or, if no action was taken by the Legislature, such rules shall become effective.

- (19) Lands listed as projects for acquisition, restoration or management under the Florida Forever program may be managed for conservation pursuant to s. 259.032, on an interim basis by a private party in anticipation of a state purchase, or on a permanent basis after state purchase, in accordance with a contractual arrangement between the acquiring agency and the private party that may include management service contracts, leases, cost-share arrangements, or resource conservation agreements. Lands designated as eligible under this subsection shall be restored and managed to maintain, restore or enhance the resources the state, including imperiled species habitat, is seeking to protect by acquiring the land and to accelerate public access to the lands as soon as practicable. Funding for these contractual arrangements may originate from the documentary stamp tax revenue deposited into the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund and Water Management Lands Trust Fund. No more than 5 percent of funds allocated under the trust funds shall be expended for this purpose. In addition, funding obtained form sources as provided in s.259.105(2)(b) shall be deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund.
- (20) The Acquisition and Restoration Council, as successors to the Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council, may amend existing Conservation and Recreation Lands projects and add to or delete from the 2000 Conservation and Recreation Lands list until funding for the Conservation and

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Recreation Lands program has been expended. The amendments to the 2000 Conservation and Recreation Lands list will be reported to the board of trustees in conjunction with the council's report developed pursuant to subsection (15). The use of rural-lands-protection easements as described in s. 570.71(3) is encouraged as a way to maintain working lands while furthering the goals of this chapter, and rural lands stewardship areas described in s.163.3177(11)(d).

Section 16. Section 259.1051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.1051 Florida Forever Trust Fund. --

- (1) There is created the Florida Forever Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of ss. 259.032, 259.105, 259.1052, and 375.031. The Florida Forever Trust Fund shall be held and administered by the Department of Environmental Protection. Proceeds from the sale of bonds, except proceeds of refunding bonds, issued under s. 215.618 and payable from moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund under s. 201.15(1)(a), not to exceed \$6 billion, must be deposited into this trust fund to be distributed and used as provided in s. 259.105(3). The bond resolution adopted by the governing board of the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration may provide for additional provisions that govern the disbursement of the bond proceeds.
- (2) The Department of Environmental Protection shall distribute revenues from the Florida Forever Trust Fund only to programs of state agencies or local governments as set out in s. 259.105(3) or as provided in s. 259.1052. Excluding

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distributions to the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund and distributions for the acquisition of the Babcock Crescent B Ranch Florida Forever acquisition as provided in s. 259.1052, the distributions shall be spent by the recipient within 90 days after the date on which the Department of Environmental Protection initiates the transfer.

The Department of Environmental Protection shall ensure that the proceeds from the sale of bonds issued under s. 215.618 and payable from moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund under s. 201.15(1)(a) shall be administered and expended in a manner that ensures compliance of each issue of bonds that are issued on the basis that interest thereon will be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, with the applicable provisions of the United States Internal Revenue Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder, to the extent necessary to preserve the exclusion of interest on the bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The Department of Environmental Protection shall administer the use and disbursement of the proceeds of such bonds or require that the use and disbursement thereof be administered in a manner to implement strategies to maximize any available benefits under the applicable provisions of the United States Internal Revenue Code or regulations promulgated thereunder, to the extent not inconsistent with the purposes identified in s. 259.105(3).

Section 17. All of the statutory powers, duties and functions, records, personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, or other funds for the

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administration of sections 380.501 through 380.515, Florida
Statutes, related to the Florida Communities Trust, shall be
transferred by a type two transfer, as defined in s. 20.06(2)
from the Department of Community Affairs to the Department of
Environmental Protection.
Section 18. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

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